FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

ffice Memorandum • united states governmen

Mr. disen BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SUBJECT:

DISTRIBUTION AND RETAIL ADVERTISING OF RIFLE SCOPES AND MOUNTS ANTITHUST

This is to advise that the antitrust division by memor dated January 31, 1955, has requested investigation of alleged of the captioned matter. The investigation requested involves of with several well known sportsmen's magazines as well as contact give companies engaged in manufacturing rifle scopes and mounts.

The investigation is based on the allegation that cer's manufacturers of rifle scopes and mounts have conspired with the publishers of several sporting magazines to control prices at w. these products are distributed and sold to the public. It is a that the magazine publishers, acting in collusion with the mand have refused to accept advertising of those firms which at empt these products at cut prices. Such concerted action to boycott advertising of price cutting retailers would apparently constit violation of the Sherman Act.

The Department has requested that we contact the foll magazines and their publishing companies:

Field and Stream, Hugh Grey, Editor, published by Henry H and Company, New York City Outdoor Life, William E. Roe, Editor, published by Popula: Science Publishing Company, New York Ci-Hunting and Fishing, Bob Becker, Editor, published by Hun: and Fishing Fublishing Corporation, Chi Sports Afield, Ted Hesting, Editor, published by The Hears Corporation, New York City Fur-Fish-Game (Harding's Magazine), A. V. Harding, Editor published by A. R. Harding Publishing (Columbus, Onio

In addition to the above-named magazines, we are ask tact five companies engaged in the manufacture and distribution scopes and mounts. At all these companies, the investigation the purpose of locating any evidence that the magazines and to facturers have constitred to boycott the advertising of price (retailers.

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

ACTION

This is submitted for your information.

Copies of the Antitrust Division request are being prepared and appropriate instructions will be forwarded to the field immediately.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1 THE CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW	YOHK V	BEST CO)PY AVAILABLE	PAN
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DISTRIBUTION AND R	ETAIL ADVERTI D MOUNTS	,	HARACTER OF CABE ANTITRUST	
ne attended the me Eeadquarters, Wash other manufacturer Rifleman was relax protecting its res	ements, asset d annually by 21 as informa pessand mount those years. and mounts for scopes a Statistical dollar valuation and Lomb eting held at dington, D. C. as issued compains its long ders from falling had no efisch and Lomb as were reached as were reached as severe reached annually so is sued compains its long and lomb as were reached.	value and of this compared the showing a compared to According to Price list of mounts as a le of scopes as and Louds optical Co., National Richards that established les claims in fect in the Optical Co., and no act and	the proportion the proportion to total busines to these incely small to was furnished well as advised that fle Association advertising attitude or and further tions were decided.	m e
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# 16 AFA 15 BAN 2U	1955	G GOINANI	CAR CORPORATION	mouse the latter

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DEMAILS:

AT ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, advised that the amount of business transacted by his company in scopes and mounts is relatively small as compared with the overall quantum of business transacted annually.

Was interviewed on March 2, 1955.

He made available annual reports of the Bausch and Lomb Company for the years 1949, 1950, 1952, 1953 and 1954. He stated that the copies of the annual report for 1951 are not available, however, the annual report for 1952 does include the financial status including the assets and the sales for the year 1951.

These annual reports are being furnished as enclosures with this report to the Bureau.

The total asset value of the Bausch and Lord Company as well as sales for the years 1949 through 1954 are set out:

Year	Sales	Tobal Assets
1949	\$35,307,100	39,195,535
1950	\$38,027,193	£40,443,023
1951	\$48,530,912	\$43,660, 298
1952	\$52,150,812	\$43,498,758
1953	\$51,077,282	\$43,097 , 805
1954	\$48,927,947 6	U-413,580,364

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publication of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, entitled, "Facts About Hunting Sights" which is described as a manual of technical and practical information on the design and construction of telescopic hunting sights and their performance and dependability. He described this publication as the best descriptive information of the various types of rifle scopes and mounts produced by the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company.

This manual is being forwarded as an enclosure with this report to the Bureau.

Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, advised that because of the relatively small amount of business transacted by this company in scopes and mounts, no separate files are maintained on the competitors of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company in this field. He stated that any correspondence relating to any of the competitors would be contained in the general files and because of the small amount of correspondence he does not feel that a general file review would be feasible.

made available the files
concerning the National Rifle Association of America,
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C., which
include a letter dated April 7, 1953 from MERRITT A.
EDSON, Executive Director of the National Rifle Association of America to requesting that he
attend a meeting on April 20, 1953 at 10:00 a.m.,
"to explore all the factors involved in our advertising
policy as it pertains to enforcing the provisions of
the several Fair Trade Acts."

In this file there is contained a letter

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dated Apraccepting but point does not In this I American mediums I scopes, I discussion magazine.

from stion to attend the above meeting, at the Bausch and Lomb Company leafs contracts with its dealers. states, "however, since the sone of the principal advertising noculars, rifle sights, and spotting initely interested in any general at the advertising policies of the

Tell (You National changing

Tile also is a letter dated April 13, TOSON, Executive Director.
This ion of America to the above meeting.

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list by models of scores and mounts
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list by models of scores and mounts
the According to
the stated that with this price list,
also sent to dealers and prospective
the conditions of sale.

letter

of the above price list and form ting forwarded as an enclosure.

advise partic years number which Compar throu: ruary 23, 1955, litistics are not available as to the els produced and sold by units from the righ 1954. He made available the total and the dollar amount of rifle scopes wified by the Bausch and Lomb Optical le sights and mounts for the years 1949

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The following chart sets forth the number of units, the dollar value of sales of these items during those years

SALES OF RIFLE SIGHTS AND MOUNTS FOR YEAR'S 1949 THROUGH 1954

RIFLE SIGHTS *

	<u>DOMETS 77.7</u>	<u> </u>	EX	PORTS
Year	Units	Amount	Units	Anount
1954	1747	84,302.70	6	325.00
1953	2162	105,620.89	8	437:00
1952	3095	154,443.11	7	414.25
1951	3672	184,673.20	lo	498.87
1950	3294	168,039.74	21	1,165.36
1949	3315	167,267.99		and the sale has
		MOTTUTE		

MOUNTS

	DOMESTI	C	EXP	DRTS
Year	Units	Amount	Units	Amount
1954	1947	31,482.40	8	134.59
1953	2723	44,141.92	9	166.71
1952	3047	49,152.69	8	147.35
		þ	U-461	6 -

MOUNTS

Cont'd

<u>DOMESTIC</u>		EXPORTS		
Year	Units	Amount	Units	Amount
1951	6025	65,142.86	9	1,46.25
1950	3743	100,129.82	23	391.25
1949	2958	48,076.95	Ann ann	

* FXCLUDES IRON RIFLE SIGHTS

on February 15, 1955, , Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, advised that he was invited by General EDSON to a meeting held at the National Rifle Association Headquarters in Washington, D. C., on April 20, 1953. He stated that from his files he recalls that he received a letter dated April 7, 1953 from General EDSON, Executive Director of the National Rifle Association of America, inviting him to the meeting to explore all the factors involved in the advertising policies of the National Rifleman as it pertains to the enforcing and provisions of the Fair Trade Acts. He stated that he accepted the invitation on behalf of Bausch and Lomb Optical Company with reservation and pointing out that the Bausch and Lomb Company does not have Feir Trade contracts with its dealers. He stated that the meeting was apparently motivated by the W. R. Weaver Company, which does have Fair Trade contracts with its dealers and

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of the W. R. Waavan Johnsony, felt that the American Rifleman should not accept the advertising which offered Weaver products at less then the Fair Trade prices. He stated that the other manufacturers entered complaints that the American Milloman was tolaxing its long existing policy of probability its readers from false claims in advertising and the like. He recalls that Gen. EDSON pointed out that the National Rifle Association people could not possibly undertake to check all ads to make sure that the prices for Weaver scopes were within the Fair Trade contracts and it was up to the W. R. Weaver Company to enforce the contracts of Mirest estion with the individual dealers. arguel on the other hand that they could show . Teny good record of having taken immediate action on any complaints received from readers concerning false claims and other types of dishonest advertising. He stated that to the best of his knowledge no conclusions were reached and no actions were decided upon. He stated that to the best of his knowledge, nothing was accomplished except it gave the individual advertisers a chance to make known their complaints. He added that to the best of his knowledge the meeting resulted in no conclusions and no action of any kind was taken as a result of this meeting. Stated that he could say with certainty that this meeting had no effect in the attitude or performance of the Eausch and Lomb lomnany.

stated that to the best of his knowledge or observation there never has been any kind of an understanding between the manufacturers in the scope and mount field on any subject. He pointed out that the rifle sight manufacturing field is known for the complete isolation of each manufacturer on all matters. He stated that he has no correspondence with the other manufacturers in this field and his only source of information concerning their activities comes from selesmen

sales outlets. also pointed car that the American Rifleman is the best source of advertising by a manufacturer of scopes and mounts, and for this reason he does not think 1t would be probable that any manufacturer would refuse or threater to refuse to advertise in this publication. He states that this would also be true to a lesser degree in all outdoor type publications and added he knows of no threats by manufacturers to withhold advertising from any magazine because of retail prices quoted on mones and mounts in the retail advertisements of periodicals. We added that except for the incident that occurred on April 23, 1953, he knows of no complaints or objections made by any of the flve manufacturers or by any distributor to a magazine because that magazine was carrying retail advertisements which offered to sell scopes and mounts at cut prices.

highly competitive field, he knows of the existence of no contracts or understandings between any of the five manufacturers and distributors or retailers of scopes and mounts which relate to:

- (a) Division of sales territories.
- (b) Price fixing or resale price maintenance.
- (c) Exclusive dealerships.
- (d) Other regulations of business activities conducted by independent resellers.

stated that he is not in

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possession or does he know of any documents relating or referring to scopes and mounts which disclose refusals by any of the five manufacturers to sell or deliver their products upon order of any distributor or the discontinuance of supplies to distributors or resale outlets or the reinstatement of retail outlets subsequent to termination of distributorships.

stated that he knows of no general understandings between magazine publishers or publishers and manufacturers that a particular course of action in the form of boycott was being pursued with regard to cut rate advertising of rifle scopes and mannes.

on March 3, 1955,

available a memorandum prepared by

to him concerning his recollection of the meeting

held at the National Rifle Association Headquarters

in Washington, D. C., on April 20, 1953. This memorandum

is dated February 22, 1955 and is being forwarded as

enclosure.

The following exhibits were obtained and are being forwarded with this report as enclosures:

Exhibit I Annual report of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, 1949

Exhibit II Annual report of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, 1950

Exhibit III Annual report of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, 1952

Exhibit IV Annual report of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, 1953

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Exhibit V Annual report of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company, 1954

Exhibit VI A manual of technical and practical information on the design and construction of telescopic hunting sights ... their performance and dependability

Exhibit VII Emmot and Gowl Rifle Sight price list dated May 22, 1951

Exhibit VIII Form Letter #86 of the Specialty Sales Department

Exhibit IX Chart of sales of Rifle Sights and Mounts for years 1949 through 1954

Exhibit X Letter of Major General MERRITT A. EDSON to Bausch and Lomb Optical Company

Exhibit XI Letter dated April 15, 1953 from to Gen. M. A. EDSON, Executive Director, National Rifle Association of America

Exhibit XII Letter dated Arril 13, 1953 to from Maj. Gen. MERRITT A. EDSON

Exhibit XIII Memo of dated February 22,

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ADMINISTRATIVE

REFERENCE

Bureau letter to New York dated 2005-4616

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

HIS CASE ORIGINA				BEST COPY AVAIL	
SAN FRANCE	C. No.	DATE WHEN	PERIOD FOIL WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	<u> </u>
مستقيات		3/24/55	3/18,21/55		$\frac{\langle A \rangle}{\langle A \rangle}$ rat
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	The second of th		The second secon	€ 	· se · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
SYNOPSIS OF FA	ACTS:				
4	Sa	n Francisco	o, Calif., advert	ised rifle scopes a	nd mounts
4 3 Transpar	American 111 June, 195	Ileman Iron 3 advertisi	m about Dec., 195	l to April, 1953 at	cut rate
1 % MITTOR I	re was indic	ated reject	llon for reason t	nat macazine did noi	faci
Company	r obtained i	n best inter Injunction a	rests of sportsmer of San Proceeds of	n. In May, 1949 H.	
1 22-5 39	ading or <u>ac</u>	semble in 7	br sale rifle so	opes and mounts at .	Less than
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SUFSTROY APR 15 19	AT SA	rch 21, 195 advised tha copes and m	5 in December, 1, ounts.	60-4616 16-37	3 £

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in the American Rifleran advertisements always listunder those suggested by the manufacturers.
until May, 1953 when the W. E. Weaver Company obtained an 1in Superior Court, San Francisco, California, which enjoines
selling or advertising for sale at less than prices stated 1
injunction certain file scores and mounts. There was a hear
this injunction
attempt to fight it and
could not sell heaver products at less than the fair trade;

advised that prior to the above mentioned s.

received a letter from the American Rifleman magazine
they had indicated that they were not going to run adver
in the June, 1953 issue as they did not feel that to do so w
the best interests of sucrtagen.

following the injunction obtained by Weaver they placed new accounts with the American Rifleman for the months of July throus October, 1953 in which the established retail prices were quot They discontinued these after October, 1953 as they received few responses and their sales fell off to the point where the continued this business entirely and they have not resumed it had to write back to their customers and tell them that they not sell them at a discount and they soon lost all of the business.

had while
merchandise but bought only rom the distributors and not dire
from any manufactures.

from any manufactures,
or explanation from any multisher regarding advertisements to
had no contacts with the man.

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and few contacts with other dealers in this equipment and had no knowledge of any collective action on the part of manufacturers and publishers with respect to the maintenance of retail prices on this equipment. had only attempted to advertise in the one magazine.

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and.

that he has had no similar experience with this business.

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WHISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE:

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

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1	PEPCRT N	MADE AT	DATE WHEN	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	<u> 570</u>	
-		SPRINGFILLD	3-30-55	3-23-55	SA		ojs
and and and	TITLE			and the second s	CHARACTER OF CASE		•
and the same of the same of		DISTRIBUTION AN OF RIFLL SOCPES			ANTITHUST	•	:
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SYNDPSIS OF FACTS:

interviewed at Springfield, Illinois, on 3-23-55 and signed statement obtained in which he advised he has been unable to have advertising inserted in "The American Rifleman" since April, 1953, with one exception which was apparently due to an error. Several pertinent correspondence obtained from the files of the "Rifleman" states the ads were refused because they were "not in the best interests of the National Hifle Association or shocting in general"; also because "it is our feeling that offerings of shooting equipment at less than established retail prices are detrimental to the orderly movement of such merchandise through regular retail channels, are a disturbing factor in the friendly relationships between established distributors and the National Rifle Association, and are otherwise contrary to the best interests and the Association, and shooting in general". says
"I believe that the 'American Rifleman' was forced to not accept my advertising because of pressure put on the publication by large manufacturers and jothers of scopes and However, I am unable to prove this by any documentar evidence."

-RUC-

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APPROVED AND	SPECIAL AGENT	ENCLOS	DO NOT WRITE IN TH		- 46-
Step Address of The Part of the Day		1. R. 1	6/6-4/	RECOR	DED-30
328 AP' 28-1200 THIS	REPORT	2011	O CONTRACTOR	714.	EXED.
	0-4616) (Enc. 18	D AFR	55 WI		N 715
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2 - New York 1 - Springfie				1/2	
WING AND CONDAY THE				MaCC:	7170
POPULATION OF THE PROPERTY OF		K. I.		or ingrality of	

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DETAILS: AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Illinois (permanent address
Illinois) was interviewed on March 23, 1953. at that time he furnished the following signed statement:

"Springfield, Ill. March 23, 1950.

"I, statement to who has identified him-self to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. No threats or promises have been made to cause me to give this statement.

at Illinois. I can read and write the English language. I consider my permanent residence to be but also reside at Illinois. Tam presently employed as at Illinois.

"Since the latter part of 1947 I have been operating a small mail order business buying and selling telescopic sights and mounts for guns. In furtherance of this business, I regularly advertised in 'The American Rifleman', the official monthly magazine of the National Rifle Association. My ads were not too big, usually, and were placed in the classified ad section of the magazine.

"Most of the ads placed in the 'American Rifleman' or This was a firm name I adopted for the following reasons: (1) To keep the W. H. Weaver Company, El Paso, Texas (from whom I was purchasing scopes and mounts! from knowing that their customer, was in turn selling their product at less than their established list prices through the use of the name (2) I considered to be a good name to sell under inasmuch as it is easy to remember, at least much easier than

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"In June, 1950 I received a letter from Mr. F. A. Moulton of 'The American Rifleman' stating that they would no longer accept advertising from me inasmuch as they had received information from 'reliable sources' that I was operating a number of supply businesses under the names of several different individuals and firms. The letter stated further that 'we do not feel that it is in the best interests of the Association and its members for us to continue to accept advertising for the Rifleman from anyone who consistently operates under a number of aliases.'

"After several letters back and forth I managed to explain, apparently to the satisfaction of the 'American Rifleman', that I had from time to time used other names and addresses in carrying on my business but that practically all my advertising in the 'American Rifleman' had been under the name of the name I wanted to build up.

"In September, 1950 I received a letter from Mr. L. F. Lucas, Eusiness Manager, National Rifle Association of America, in which he advised the 'American Rifleman' would again accept my advertising, beginning with the Movember, 1950 issue, provided I would advertise only under the name of that I would 'remodel' a portion of my selling practices in order to meet requirements of Fair Trade Laws.

"Things went along smoothly from that point until May, 1953 when the American Rifleman again refused to accept my advertising stating: 'The advertisement outlined in your letter of April 30th is not in the best interests of the National Rifle Association, or shooting in general.'

"When I asked for more specific details as to why my advertising was unacceptable to the magazine I received another letter from Mr. F. A. Moulton of the American Rifleman' in which he stated:

As to the reasons for our letter to you of May 5th, it is our feeling that offerings of shooting equipment at less than established retail prices are detrimental to the orderly movement of such merchandise through regular retail channels, are

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'a disturbing factor in the friendly relationships between established distributors and the Metional Rifle Association, and are otherwise contrary to the best interests and objective of the Association, and shooting in general.

"I thereafter sent in several ads to be placed in the American Rifleman' but they were all returned, with one exception which apparently was an oversight on the letter from Mr. Moulton in which he reiterated the policy less than established retail prices. A paragraph is quoted from this letter:

However, If we continue to make appoint exceptions to our current general policy of not accepting any alvertisements in the Hilleman offering scopes at less than established retail prices we shall as outlined in your letter! I have not been able to advertise in this magazine since then.

to reach potential customers for my scopes and mounts since it has the widest circulation among the gun entrusiasts who might be in the market for scopes and mounts. Therefore, when the magazine refused to take my advertising any longer, a great percentage of my coff from contact with me. As a result I have been caught with a considerable number of scopes and mounts which I cosclete. This has caused me considerable financial

"I believe that the 'American Rifleman' was forced to not accept my advertising because of pressure put on the publication by large manufacturers and jobbers of scopes and mounts. However, I am unable to prove this by any documentary evidence. The 'American Rifleman' R. Weaver Company, El Paso, Texas in which that company objects to my selling their product below their established

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"list prices. I have every reason to believe the objections filed by the W. R. Weaver Company with the 'American Rifleman' were the prime factors in the decision of the magazine not to accept my advertising any more. I recall a conversation I had in approximately 1951 with an official of the Morehouse and Wells company of Decatur, Illinois in which this official stated in substance that he had been instructed by the W. R. Weaver Company not to sell me any more Weaver scopes as I had been cutting the price below the established list price. I cannot recall the name of this official of the Morehouse and Wells firm.

"I have read the above statement consisting of this page and three other pages and it is true.

"Witness:

Special Agent, FEI, Springfield, Illinois, Special Agent, F.D.I.Springfield, Illinois!

The original of this statement is being retained in the Springfield file on this matter.

business of ruying and selling scopes and mounts quite by accident. He explained that some time in the wanted a scope for his own rifle and sent an inquiry for a price list direct to the W. R. Weaver Company, El Paso, Texas. When he received the price list he noted that the price per unit for three scopes was less than the price for one; that the price per unit for an order of eighteen scopes was even scopes with the thought in mind that would probably a profit, through the classified advertising section of The American Rifleman.

related this idea worked out even better than expected inasmuch as he was able to sell all of the eighteen scopes which he obtained from the weaver Company and, in fact, received orders for more scopes than the eighteen he had advertised. He therefore, ordered more scopes to fill these excess orders and again advertised these and others in the "Rifleman". From that point his business "snewballed"

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to the point where he was regularly running an ad every month in the "Rifleman" until the difficulties arose cutlined in the above statement.

said he realized that if he advertised scopes as "brand new" and at less than the established retail prices the manufacturers would soon refuse to sell to him any more. Therefore, he adopted the subterfuge of using "aliases" in ordering his scopes from the manufacturers.

In addition, he advertised most of his stock as "used, perfect" and then quoted a price a few dollars less than the established list price for a similar "brand new" scope. Actually, however, he filled the orders for "used, perfect" scopes from his "brand new" stock in most cases as he was still able to realize a satisfactory profit by this method of operation.

However, Weaver apparently found out what was doing and began returning his purchase orders unfilled but with no explanation as to why his business was being refused. Not long after this he began to have his first difficulties with the "Rifleman".

was unable to locate any of the orders he had sent to weaver which had been returned unfilled nor could he locate any correspondence with Weaver on this matter. However said he distinctly recalled receiving a letter at one time from Weaver's attorneys asking him in effect to cease and desist his "unfair practices".

had a file of correspondence he has had back and forth with the "Rifleman" which file dates back to 1950. Pertinent documents from this file were photostated and are enclosed as exhibits with conies of this report going to the Eureau. It is noted did not de did not desire to relinquish possession of the original documents at this time:

Exhibit Number .

Description

Rifleman" dated June 2, 1950 beginning: "Information has been submitted to us..." This letter refuses to handle any more of because of his use of

from "The American advertisement

SI 60-15/4

Exhibit Number	Description
1-A	Copy of "Ad for July, 1950 - 'The American Hifleman'" which was refused by the magazine.
2	Five pase handwritten letter to Mr. FRED A. MCULTON from dated June 29, 1950, beginning: "In reply to your letter of June 2, I wish to say" In this letter offerstexplanation as to his use of "aliases" in carrying on his business.
2-1	"Ad for August, 1950 issue of 'The American Hifle-man'" publication of which was refused.
3	dated July 6, 1950, which begins: Ar. Mourton has passed along to me your friendly letter of June 29th as it involves a matter of policy" In this letter additional explanation is requested of the as to why he used "aliases" in the operation of his husiness.
P. 1	Letter from "The American Rifleman" to dated July 31, 1950, which begins: "Although we recently received a very fine and interesting report from" This letter encourages to write concerning "the questions raised in letter to you of the 6th".
5	Four page handwritten letter to Mr. FRED A. MCULTUN from dated August 31, 1950, beginning: "This refers to letter of July 6 and to your letter of July 31" In this letter offers further explanation as to his use of "allases" in the operation of his business.
6	Letter from Maticnal Rifle Association of America to dated September 18, 1950, which begins: "Your file pertaining to advertising in The American Rifleman' under the names of several different individuals and firms" This letter

BEST COPY AVAILABLE Exhibit Description Number states in substance that further advertising will be since he had agreed to "remodel" accepted from a portion of his selling practices in order to meet requirements of Fair Trade laws. One pare handwritten letter to Mr. FRED A. MOULTON from dated April 30, 1952 and which "Attached is my ad for June, 1952.... begins: "Add for June, 1952, The American Rifleman". This is considered as a typical example of the type of advertisement acceptable to the "American Rifleman". Postal card dated May 5, 1952 showing acceptance of 7-5 this ad by the "FATLeman". One page handwritten letter from Mr. FRED A. MOULTON dated March 29, 1953 which begins: "Attached is my ad for May, 1953.... "Ad for May, 1952 The American Rifleman". This is 8-A considered another typical example of the type of ad acceptable to the "Rifleman" Postal card dated April 2, 1953 showing acceptance of this ad by the "Rifleman". 8-E One page handwritten letter to Mr. FRED A. MOULTON Ġ from dated April 30, 1953, which begins: "Attached is my ad for June, 1953..." Written across this is the word "Refused". "Ad for June, 1953, The American Rifleman!". Written 9-A across this is the word "Refused". Letter from "The American Rifleman" to dated May 5, 1953 beginning: "The advertisement outlined in your letter of April 30th is not in the best interests of the National Rifle Association, or shooting in general." It is noted, according to the rate card mentioned in the letter was not enclosed as indicated.

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7.	Exhibit	i.	43
	Number	Description	الهربوة إ
1	11	Two page typewritter letter to "The American mirkeman" from dated hay 9, 1900 and teginning: "When I returned iron a field trip today I found your letter of May 2, 1903," In this letter requests "just what way may I word my advertising to be acceptable by the 'American Rifleman'	T3 .
- -	12	One page typewritten letter from "The American Rifleman" to dated May 15, 1953 which begins: "We are extremely sorry for omission of copy of our current rate card from our letter to you of May 5th" The second paragraph of this letter states: "As to the reasons for our letter to jou	
		of May 5th, it is our feeling that offerings of shooting equipment at less than exceptioned retail prices are derrimental to the orderly movement of such merchandise through regular channels, are a dispurbing lactor in the friendly relationships between establish distributors and the National Alfle Association, and are otherwise contrary to the best interests and objectives of the Association, and shooting in general	: C k
•	12-A V	Letter from F. A. MCULTON to deted May 19, 1953 beginning: "Furely on a personal masis I am inclined to believe that the manufacturers of the scopes you still have on hand, in new factory condition would be willing to purchase these scopes from you at exactly what you paid for them"	ij
	13	One page handwritten letter to "The Massices different from dated May 30, 1993 which segins: "Attached is my check, amt. 013.00 for small July ad, 1957".	
\$ ·	13-A	"AD for July, 1953, 'The American Rifleman'". This ad was enclosure to exhibit #12 and was refused by the magazine.	
	14	One page typewritten letter from National Fine Association to dated July 2, 1953	

60-4616 = 7 4]

	Exhi	
	Numbe	Description
		which begins: "Your letter of May 30th, together with copy of an advertisement" This letter reiterates that "the acceptance of your advertisements for 'The American Rifleman' is not in the best interest of the National Rifle Association."
	15	One page handwritten letter to The Arms Chest, "The American Rifleman" from Lated July 31, 253 which begins: "Enclosed is my check, amount \$10.80, for ad below, for Sept. desue."
	15-A	Postal card dated August 11, 1953 showing acceptance of this ad for the September issue of the "Riflemen". thinks somehody erred in accepting this
	16 10 10	Une page typewritten letter from "The American Rifleman" to dated September 2, 1953 which begins: "In line with General Edson's letter to you of July 2, indicating that the acceptance of your advertisements for the 'American Rifleman' is not in the best interests of the National Rifle Association, we are omitting"
]	.ό- <u>Α</u>	Copy of the "Ad for October, 1953, 'The American Eifleman'" which ad was refused per the above letter (Exhibit #16).
1	7	Four page handwritten letter to "The American Rifleman" from dated April 29, 1954 which begins: "I am attaching a small ad with this letter" In this letter pleads to have an ad run in the "Rifleman" just for the one issue, if not two
17	7-A	"Arms Chest Ad for June, 1954".
- 128 - 138 - 138 - 138		One page typewritten letter from "The American Rifle- dan" to dated May 3, 1954 which begins:
		## # 1 h

60-4616

SI 60-150

Exhibit Number

Description

"I can assure you that we are fully appreciative of the circumstances..." The second paragraph of this letter states: "However, if we continue to make special exceptions to our current general policy of not accepting any advertisements in The Rifleman' offering scopes at less than established retail prices we shall always be running into special circumstances such as outlined in your letter."

said that the only other magazine he had covertised in was but had had very little response from these ads and so discontinued them. He also found ads run in other sporting magazines were unprofitable. He never had an ad refused by any magazine, however, except "The American Hifleman".

ceal of the money he had invested in his scope stock and there speared to be little chance of selling these scopes since the readers of "The American Rifleman" were his principal, and, in fact, his only sales outlet.

ENGLOSURES TO BUREAU.

Exhibits numbers 1 through 18, as above described.

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60-4616 = 41

SI 60-154

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to New York dated 3-10-55. Springfield letter to Bureau dated 3-23-55.

60-4616 = -41

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT	W YOPK	DD FOR WHICH MADE	BEST COPY	FM
SAN ANTONTO, TEXAS	MADE	-10/55		luj
DISTRIBUTION AND RESON AND RESONANT			AUTITE IST	
had no knowledge	cf WATT ndles advertising of any agreement te advertisers; a	for STITH SO s by STITH wi Iso states ha	th other manufa d no direct kno	advised he acturers owledge of
	r i simpasma i veriori d			
DETAILS: AT SAY	المنطقية المنطقة المنط المنطقة المنطقة		Samuel Colonia	•
Turk	te 8, 1955		of working	ADVERTISING
AGENCY, LOI Nava	erro Street, race		file with res	cect to the
STITH SCOPES AND for this concern	I RUUNTS.		een handling the	advertising
	reviswing this fi			
	a copy of each is to the Department		sed with this r	apout to vi Girli
	py of a letter to		, dated September 7	
	ounts, beginning,			
	cerpt from a memo			
in the second se	F. MCCLURE, to a	our classifie	d advertising,	editorial
	at of our of or a feet		Wan NTW	liences ruce
	100 miles	DU SAF	T C F	60
APPROVED AND DEST	SPECUE ASIDIT	C/C/ 0 / 13 Y	DO NOT WATTE IN THESE A	A A STATE OF THE S
POHWARDED!	THE CHARGE	J. L. J. X.	A C Clark DATA DATA DATA	
	La Company	12 13 X	tallo 160	
COPRESCRIME	The state of the state of the state of	OF THE		DV-126
Bureau (60-	1616) (encl. 40)			
12 - New Tork (6	7-1-07) - Managara			3
A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR			112	
CALLAND SOCIETY				A A A A CO

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- 2. Letter to MTFLAR, and a September 30, 1992, from the beginning, "Your policies agarded out price advertising are your own rusineds, but who a you place our client's advertis a de activities, as activities."
- 3. Letter to Sold in Land, dated April 17, 1953, iron beginning, "I am opposed to our advertising in Landau which carry "cut-rate" copy for the following reasons:"
- daked November 5, 1953, from Marchard refer to year leb or of (otober 29th in regards to poope, ating on a till well a devertising.
- dated November 10, 1953, from of STITH SCOPES AND MOUNTS, beginning, "Your letter directed to the Wyatt Advertising Agency is before me."
- dated November 19, 1953, from ARIZONA WILDLIFE SPORTSHALL beginning will am enclosing copy of my reply to of STITH who wrote me in the 16th re tis-ins.

With respect to the above-listed correspondence, he was opposed to advertising in magazines which carried out-rate advertising from strictly an advertising man's point of view. He pointed out that advertising fell short of its mark when it was carried in a publication which carried advertising of a similar line of corchandise quoting prices client's prices. He soid that in such a case, naturally at less than client were not best surved because the reader of the the interests magazanes could compare the prices and, naturally, would buy from the company listing the cheener price. He said that he did not know of any SCUPES AND FOURTS with any of the agreements between other manufacturers with respect to policies to be followed by the manufacturers and/or the magazines with respect to persons and companies who listed their products at a price less than that suggested by the manufacturer. He said he did now, however, that He said he did know, however, that was strongly opposed to cut-rate advertisers; this subject and

With respect to the letter of September 10, 1952, from HUNTING AND FISHING magazine said that the was an unsolicited letter.

SL 60-133

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With respect to its larger of September 30, 1952, to F. A.

NYOTON of the ARREST AND ARREST AND SOUND that this letter was written by him from strictly an advertical conspicuous point of view. He said that the parter-page advertice to its its letter was placed in the casazine of exactly the same page as a series of a various of sad which less ones. He said blue the deventioning of his client, the HID MOUNTS, listed a promotion as at her than that li teat by the our rate advertiser. For this man, he protected the plant of the ad and not the careging of the and real advertion of the AMERICA RIFLEMAN.

advertisors

with regard to a correspondence to sail or a the million will SPC. 13-14, See this correspondence to another see and any see small one of the second transfer to advertising the transfer that the second transfer to advertising transfer to advertising the second transfer trans

Medica - medition. anyone could have alsed of any party and the

and that he did now lonow of thethy of any of the second of the second of the magazine care out-He points at this

84 60-260

REFERENCE dated 3/28/55 at San Antonio

Bollet to San Antonio Cated 5/11/55

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60-4616 B# 60

PD-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FEI, DETROIT (60-433)

6/30/55

AIRECTOR, FBI (60-4616)

DISTRIBUTION AND RETAIL ADVERTISING OF KIFLE SCOPES AND MOUNTS; ANTI-TRUST

Re Minneapolis airtel to New York, 23 instant, cc Bureau and Detroit.

Investigation at

Michigan. This company is a partnership

consisting of which does

not manufacture any rille scopes but does manufacture
such items as scope mounts, receiver sights, open sight
bases and gun cleaning equipment. They also operate as
jobbers of rifle scopes, guns, ammunition, and other items
to make up a complete line of shooting accessories.

They have a mailing list of approximately 10,000 dealers, among the estimated 17,000 dealers in these lines in the U.S., selling both to jobbers and dealers.

handles scopes of Weaver, Stith, Lyman, and Unertal. Freliminary investigation reflects no pertinent data re alleged anti-trust violation; however, time available prior to Buded 7/1/55 not sufficient to search 24 drawers of correspondence. It is estimated that this can be done and report submitted 7/14/55.

Re paragraph 3 of letter from Precision Tool and Gun Company, to Copper Shooters Supplies dated 5/24/55

for approximately 400 dealers, at which brogram included no discussion of price fixing.

AIR MATE CPD:EAE (4)

CG: New York 60-1107

Br. Roski

b10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

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PAGE TWO

He recalls mentioning in casual conversation discount selling by and company but states that made no agreement to cease doing business with them.

states no orders have been received from but has been and continues to be a customer of exhibited ledger sheets showing 24 shipments of orders from between 4/15/55 and 6/28/55.

6**u**-4616 -

FED	ERAL BUF	REAU OF	INVESTIG	ATION	
1 No. 1 CASE ORIGINATED AT		L		OPY AVAILABL	E
HOUSTON	DATE WHEN MADE 5/24/55	PERIOD FOR WHICH M 6/20,-23/55	ADE REPORT MADE	94	(A).
DISTRIBUTION OF RIFLE SCO	AND RETAIL PES AND MOUN	ADVERTISING TS	i	CASE DIC	
NOPSIS OF FACTS:		,	of the		
	, Houston, a	,	ad been d/b, Manufacti	irers of rif	le
scopes and m	ounts supply ders for sco	pes from an	et forth. y "so-called	denied price cutti	lng
requesting t	he	to	adhere to si	only manufactuggested list	turer t
		received a	ny warnings	ements with from manufac	
that the	s' suggested	list price	s. Files of	e selling be f the	
for t	he years 195 d correspond	54 and 1955	were made a	vailable, wer	re
	,	- RUC -		•	
DETATE . AT	HOUSTON, TE				
	forts were m		not and int	ownt ou	
	of the	₽"			
June 23, 195	June 20. 21, 5 adv	, and 22, 19 vised that h	e would be	results. Or available for	r' n
inverviewat	HA:30 FM the	et day. It	is to be no	ted that the	re
ar of	A S		60-4	310	, .
100	RA	•	-X (J I D Marie	7
POR DANCE	SPECIAL AG	י יות ב			
WARDED.		HARGE	DO NOT WRITE I	N THESE SPACES	/
COPIES OF TH	IS APPORT	ENCL	V/ 1	4	,
2 Bureau (6 2 New York- 1 Houston (0-4616)(enc] (60-1107)	LS 2		RECO	***
-1 Houston	60-126)	13 34	N 28 1955	M.	
	1 2 1955	7			4
ab en				The state of the s	CONTRACTOR OF THE

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was no listing in the telephone directory for the however, it was determined that this organization was necesion, Texas.

On June 23, 1955 was contacted and

stated that , and that the business known as the was started sometime around that he had been collecting guns, scopes, mounts, etc. It is to be noted that hobby prior to Houston, Texas, and employed by the He also stated his business was on a nationwide scale, but that only about 30% of his business was obtained outside of a hundred mile radius of stated most of his lusiness was obtained Houston, Texas. through personal contacts, and that he had previously advertised in the American Rifleman and the Sporting Goods Dealer, but that he had voluntarily withdrawn his advertising about a year ago because marital difficulties had arisen

for the following manufacturers of raile scopes, and furnished the following approximate percentage of each brand sold to the total of all brands:

The Lyman Gun Sight Corporation ----- 80% Middlefield, Connectiont

The Pecar Gun Sight (Through Sumpter, South Carolina)

Hy-Score Arms Company - - - - 10% 25 Lafayette Street, Brooklyn 1, N.Y.

D. P. Bushnell & Company, Int 4 6 16 - - 557 860 Bushnell Building, Pasadena, Calif.

Unertl Optical Company --- Only of 3551 East Street sold in Pithsburgh Fennsylvania year

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'Best copy available

advised that of the above mentioned rifle scope manufacturers, only the Lyman Gun Sight Jorporation and the D. P. Bushnell and Company, Inc. are competitive pricewise. He stated the "Hy-Score" scope is a higher priced scope and that "Pecar" scope is of German manufacture, is of a different type of construction, and is therefore not competitive with the others.

further advised the following manufacturers of scope mounts were suppliers and game the following approximate percentages of sales:

Orinda, California

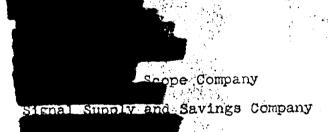
(Echoynoupts)

Boise, Idaho

Gun Sight Company Davison, Michigan

Jenkintown, Pennsylvania

denied receiving orders for acopes from and of the following "so-called price cutting retailers":



He denied that he has ever refused to sell scopes to any retailer because that dealer was selling or advertising at prices below those suggested by the manufacturer.

denied heving any fair "trade agreements" W10 any of the arcrementioned manufacturers, who supply him with acopes and mounts. He stated that all of his manufacturers furnished him with a suggested list price either by stating the actual suggested list price, or showing the retail price less the lobber's discount. However, the D. P. Bushnell & Company line ideas not have a jobber's set in any set the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the received the same for the Bushnell scores and the same for the sa

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stated that at it. is the above only the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation would require min alhere to the suggested list price. This opinion of was based on the fact that he heard the Peden Iron T Steel Company, Houston, which deals in hardware and sporting goods, complained to the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation when he was giren a Lyman distributorship. He further state to the Lyman Cun Sight Corporation informed him that if he nace to sell at less than the suggested list price which the Paler Iron and Steel Company was following, they would have to all dealership rather than lose the Peden account. stated he had heard rumors, the source of which recall, that Peden and other jobbers have sold at less than list price on several occasions.

advised that resale prices are subject to mutual understanding and there are no agreements with the manufacturers to control resale prices.

is conveyed to them by the manufacturers' consumers price to retailers lists, and when specifically asked by the retailer, he would tell them what the consumer's price should be.

does not "police" retailers' prices.

He maintained that if retailers sold at less than list price, he would tell them they were silly to do so because they were losing money, and that they should limit their competition to services rendered. He further stated he would not take any action, and amplified this remark by saying in the past it has bean brought to his attention that retailers have sold at lower than list price and when he received this information, he did not take any action nor did he report it to the manufacturer.

denied he has ever been warned by the manufacturer that the or its customers were selling below the manufacturer's list price. He denied corresponding with manufacturers regarding retailers selling "off list", and he also denied that any understandings exist between the and the manufacturers that the jobbers will not resell to retailers who deviate from the manufacturers' suggested list prices.

to give stated the following manufacturers have refused

Redfield Gun Sight Compans (8315 61pt) Street, P

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permit for this company was for this company was that in May, 1905, they informed him that they felt they were adequately represented stated, nowever, that in February, 1955, he had received correspondence from the Redfield Gun Sight Company in which they stated they were not satisfied with the present distribution of their products in the Houston area. He was unable to explain their sudden change in plans.

Pachmeyer Gun Works, 1220 South Grant Avenue, Los Angeles, California

This company refused to sell transplant as a jobber, and would only sell to him as a dealer; was at a loss to understand this viewpoint since he deals strictly on a wholesale basis.

W. R. Weaver Company El Paso, Texas

The reason given by the Weaver Company for refusing was that they had sufficient distribut-

his files for the years 1994 and 1953. The correspondence contained in those files which was deemed pertinent to this investigation is set forth as enclosures herewith.

ENCLOSURES: TO BUREAU - Photostatic copies of the following:

Six (5) letters from the Redfield Gun Sight Company to the Texas Gun Clinic dated 9/3/52; 7/8/54; 9/8/54; 1/31/55; 2/9/55; 5/13/55.

Electron from to the Redfield day sight Company dated 6/25/54; 7/28/54; 9/3/54; 1/3/55; 1/21/55; 3-page letter 2/5/55; 2/25/55 (and attached list of lines handled by the basis); 3/18/55; 4/21/55; 5/14/55; b/16/55.

One (1) 6-page petition circulated by during the month of June, 1955, 4 (various retailers in the

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Houston area re availability of Redfield Gun Cipproducts in the Wonston area; availability of products in the Wonston area; availability of products were jobbed by the Texas Gun C

.bed

Three (3) letters from W. R. Weaver Co. date: 9/4/52; 7/1/54; 1/31/55.

Three (3) letters from the W. R. Weaver Company dated 6/25/54; 12/10/54; 1/

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REFERENCES

Bureau letter to New York, 6/13/55
Bureau airtel to New York, 6/22/55

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

60-4616 = 5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK DATE WHEN PEPORT MADE AT PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE REPORT MADE BY 6-27-55 6-16,20,21-55 MILWAUKEE, WIS. CHARACTER OF CASE DISTRIBUTION AND RETAIL ADVERTISING OF ANTITRUST RIFLE SCOPES AND MOUNTS SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: ARMS CO., Milwaukee, are authorized jobbers for the Lyman scope and the Norman Ford, but obtains Weaver scopes for its retail trade from an authorized Weaver jobber in Red Wing, Minn. Weaver scopes comprise 95% of sales; Lyman 4% and Norman Ford 1%. has no agreement with manufacturers, and manufacturers have placed no restrictions on him. have placed no restrictions on him. has no knowledge retailers have been refused advertising in sports magazines. evidentiary correspondence obtained. - RUC -DETAILS: AT MINWAUKEE, WISCONSIN By letter dated June 13, 1955 the Bureau transmitted a copy of a memorandum dated June 9, 1955 from the Antitrust Division of the U. S Department of Justice, which requested that certain information and evidentiary material be obtained from a jobber or dealer in rifle scopes, inasmuch as allegations have been made that possible violations of the antitrust laws may exist in connection with the distribution and advertising of rifle scopes by five of the largest manufacturers of such rifle scopes. 60-4616 PROVED AND COPIES DESTROYED APP COCIES SE BLIE REPORT RECORDED-39 3 - Bureau (60-4616) 2 - New York (60-1107) M11waukee (60-180)

PROPERTY OF PRI-THIS REPORT IS COARED TO YOU BY THE FRI, AND REITHER IT NOR ITS CONTENTS ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE THE AGENCY.

BEST CODY ANA

abus in ese 4435 W. : April 1,

the sporting goods business and the firearms tast 15 years. He previously had his shop at 3 ve., but has been at his present location sir

and deale an authors approximat scopes, but dealer.

JUDNOT1ZEC W understandin many Weaver with as much thát

come an auti dealership stadditional job: Weaver scopes that he bills for the loading

of jobber and re

outlined on page

Ford rifle s is the Weave Ford brand. the Lyman Co. scope for \$49. stated that the considered con-4.00 power sco:

The present ret is as follows:

stated that he has been authorized jobbe lyman scopes for approximately three years, and and dealer for the Norman Ford (Texan scopes) ear. He stated that he also handles the Weaver edirect basis nor as an authorized factory at he obtains his Weaver scopes from the Minn, the latter being an stated that he has an furnishes him with as so that ading equipment as he requires. He stated the same price that the factory charges him ad that he applied to the Weaver Corp. to cobber, but the Weaver Corp. refused him a st their output was not big enough to add stated that bills him for the stated the Weaver co. would bill him, and

> stated that he acts in the dual capacit n the scopes line.

tame as though the Lyman Co. would bill him

re the answers as requested from questions : new of the Attorney General:

the Lyman, the Weaver and the Norman te stated that 95% of his scope sales the Lyman brand, and 1% the Norman stated that about one year ago the market with their "All American" ader to meet Weaver competition. He Ford and the Lyman rifle scopes are price-wise, in the 2.5 and the

- list of the scopes which he handles

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MI 60-180

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Trade	Power	Retail	Date of Price List
Name	Model	Price	
Norman Ford	2.5	\$36.00	11-1-54
	4.00	42.50	11-1-54
Lyman	2.5	\$45.50 49.50	1-1-55 1-1-55
Weaver	2.5	\$37.50	3-1-54
	4.00	45.00	3-1-54

has never received any orders for rifle scopes from the so-called price-cutting retailers identified on page three of the Attorney General's memo to the Director dated June 19, 1955.

He stated that he has never had any trouble with retailers and at the present time he services primarily metropolitan Milwaukee area and occasionally has a retailer in up-state Wisconsin. He stated that he has approximately twenty to twentyfive retail accounts. He has no knowledge that the retailers whom he services sell rifle scopes other than at the fixed retail prices, which are fair traded, and which prices are fixed by the scope manufacturers. He stated that if the retailer wishes to sell the rifle scopes for less than the fair trade price, it does not concern him, and it merely means that the retailer is making a smaller profit. stated that he has never refused to sell rifle scopes to any retailer, whether or not this retailer abides by the fair trades price or whether he uses cut price methods. stated that he has never been told directly or indirectly by anyone to sell rifle scopes to certain exclusive retailers.

grand to purchase of rifle scopes from manufacturers, he stated that the Lyman and the Norman Ford manufacturers are not governed by the fair trade laws, but that the Weaver scopes are governed by the state fair trade agreements. With regard to sales of scopes, all three brands and all three companies send a suggested manufacturer's price list with their merchandise, and the manufacturer conveys this knowledge of this suggested resale price to the jobber by sending along price lists when merchandise is ordered by the jobber.

Stated that the jobbers' discount is based on the manufacturer's list price. He stated

60-4616 - 73

that the suggested manufacturer's price list is not binding on him at all, and that he is free to make his own price to the retailer if he is willing to take a cut in profit.

stated that no agreement exists between himself and the manufacturers. He stated that his position is that of a jobber, and that he places an order for rifle scopes at his pleasure and that no restrictions are placed on him as to whom he is to sell these rifle scopes. stated that to his knowledge the manufacturers do not communicate with retailers, and retailers obtain the resale prices and suggested lists from the jobbers. He stated that to his knowledge manufacturing firms do not attempt to police retailers' prices. He stated that should any information reach him that certain retailers to whom he sells are selling rifle scopes at cut-rate prices, he would do nothing about these methods.

stated that the manufacturers for whom he is the authorized jobber have never given him any warnings that it or its customers were selling below the manufacturer's suggested list price; he has never corresponded with manufacturers regarding retailers' selling "off list" and he denies emphatically that any understandings exist between him and the manufacturers that he will not resell to retailers who deviate from the manufacturers' suggested price list.

stated that he knows of no retailers who have ever been denied advertising in sporting magazines and periodicals because of the retailers! practices of advertising rifle scopes "off list".

made available his files, and no correspondence letters or memoranda either from the manufacturers or to the manufacturers was located which has any bearing on this case.

stated that although he has the dual capacity of both jobber and retailer in the operation of his he has never had the opportunity of engaging in advertising in sport magazines and sporting periodicals. He has no knowledge that such advertising space has ever been denied any other jobbers or

- RUC - 4616

MI 60-180

REFERENCES: Bulet to New York dated June 13, 1955, cc #11mauxee.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE -

60-4616 - 73

The state of		ERAL BUR	EAU OF I	NVESTIGATION
3	POEM NO. I THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT	NEW YORK	. 100	BEST COPY AVAILABLE
**	BALTIMORE	DATE WHEN MADE	/27:7/5/55	DE REPORT MADE BY
A second of the	DISTRIBUTION A	AND PETAIL ADV	ARTISING	CHARACTER OF CASE ANTITICUT TO THE CHARACTER OF CASE
	51 NOPSIS OF FACTS:	M	en e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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を表現のできる。 では、これのできる。 では、 では、 では、 では、 では、 では、 では、 では、	On June 27, 19	55. 26 South Geor	ge Street, a	advised that son connected with the ecords or information $60-4616$
	FCHNAPOED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARG	——————————————————————————————————————	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
	3 Bureau (60-4 3 New York (60 (1 Regional Attorney)	-1107) Antitrust	8 JUL 8	ECORDED - 78
	1 Baltimore (6	Q4166)		

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BA 60-156

concerning this matter. She said, was presently recuperating from a serious skull fracture and would not be available until July 5, 1955, at the earliest.

Wilson and Pugh Company, 26 South George Street, a wholesale hardware firm, advised on July 5, 1935, that his company has handled only Weaver Scopes, manufactured by the W. R. Weaver Company, El Paso, Texas, for general business since January 1, 1949. During this same period, he has written a very small number of special customer orders for Lyman Scopes, manufactured by the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation, Middlefield, Connecticut. He said that 98% of his sales are Weaver Scopes with the Lyman product making up the remaining 2%. The Weaver Scopes are considered competitive, pricewise.

stated that to the best of his knowledge, his firm has never received orders for scopes from any of the following so-called price cutting retailers:

Iowa
Illinois
Colorado
Scope Company, Illinois
San Francisco, California
Pennsylvania
Central Investment Company, Prineville, Gregon
San Francisco, Calif.
Colorado
New York
Pennsylvania
O -4616

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Massachusetts

Manchester, New Hampshire

Cumberland, Maryland.

None of the above firms, he advised, have been carried on the books of Wilson and Fugh Company and if any of them did deal with his firm such dealings would have been cash transactions over the counter and so no record of such dealings would be available. Wilson and Pugh has never refused to sell scopes to any retailer because that dealer was selling or advertising at prices below those suggested by the manufacturer, or for any other reason except possibly that of a retailer's inability to properly meet his financial obligations.

. Cumberland, As for the said he does not know vď beteraco ed to the best of his knowledge he <u>ha</u>s never seen him. are carried on Mar rus i... rue the books of warson and rugh Company. has never <u>If any sales have been</u> established his credit with the firm and so. made to or the they have been To the best or inowledge, he has cash transactions. never refused business.

recalled that indirectly he had some trouble with approximately a year ago. At that time, he received a long distance telephone call from the W. R. Weaver Company and was advised that a second of Cumberland had notified them that Wilson and Pugh Company were telling Weaver products to the general public at wholesale prices. Acvised W. R. Weaver Company that sales were made only to those licensed to sell and a request was made for the names of those individuals to whom the firm reportedly sold and who were not properly licensed to buy at wholesale. No names were made available, he said, and no additional word was heard from Weaver concerning the matter.

further stated that although he recognizes Weaver product as fair trade items, he could not recall and he has no record of ever having entered into a fair trade agreement with the manufacture Both Weaver and Lyman scopes are sold by Wilson and Fugh Company under the manufacturers' suggested list or dealer prices. Suggested resale prices are conveyed to Wilson and Pugh Company by the manufacturers' dealer quotation sheets which are in no way binding

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EA 60-166

upon the wholesale firm. Resale prices are merely a matter of nutual understandings between manufacturer and Wilson and Pugh.

advised that he makes no attempt to police retailers' prices. In the past, when such action has been requested by a retailer, has advised them that Wilson and Pugh Company is not a police agency and cannot police retailers' prices. No action has ever been taken against any retailer by Wilson and Bugh Company when notice is received that the retailer is selling below list prices.

Wilson and Pugh Company has never been warned by either W. R. Weaver Company or the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation that it or its customers were selling below the manufacturers' suggested price. There has never been any correspondence with either of the manufacturers concerning retailers selling "off list", and there is no understanding with either of the manufacturers that Wilson and Fugh Company will not resell to retailers who deviate from the manufacturers' suggested prices.

advised that he has no documents or factual information in his files relevant to the subject matters discussed.

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Bureau letter to Bureau airtel to Baltimore radiog

Tated 6/13/55.
Tated 6/22/55.
Teau dated 6/27/55.

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60-4616 = 75

ADMINISTRATIVE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	_b7C
LJUISVILLE	6/29/55	6/24/55		(A) mmb
n.r			CHARACTER OF CASE	
DISTRIBUTION AND RIFLE SCOPES AND		ISING OF	ANTITRUST	
TITLE SOUTES AND	310011 1			
YNOPSIS OF FACTS:				
	Manus On a burn			3
			e wholesaler of har purchased 2885 ris	
during 4 years en	ding 5/1/55.	Most of these rif	le scopes purchased	l from
W. R. Heaver Comp	any, El Paso,	Texas, and are re	sold by Belkmap on	a
"fair traded" bas failed to reveal			pondence files (2	rears),
tailed to reveat	any with oc in	100000		
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Invest	igation herein	was conducted at	the request of a	letter j
rom the Director	freator from !	THOO WOLON TO	namitted to this of	(Ilco
		O TORE THE	estigation at Bello	ocher ary
Antitrust Divisio	n, dated June	A TANA THE THE		, ap
	facturing Com	pany, 111 East Mai	n Street, is in com	npliance
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hardware, tools, sporting goods, paints, plumbing materials, farm implements, electrical appliances, cutlery, dishes, furniture, and related items. They serve 30,000-customers throughout the central and southern states. Rifle scopes and mountings account for an infinitesimal portion of its sporting goods sales and consequently, they do not push the it or make any effort to "keep its finger on the pulse of this particular industry."

Belknap's available purchase records extend back only 4 years ending may 1, 1955. From these records reported Belknap's rifle scope purchases for these 4 years have been:

- 1. Lyman Gun Sight Corporation, Middlefield, Conn. They do not stock scopes from this company but order a few upon receiving orders from customers. They may have purchased 10 or so during the last 5 or 5 years, primarily the cheaper ones for .22 caliber rifles.
- Conn. This firm makes scopes for rifles they manufacture and Bel map's handle these rifles as well as the scopes. For the 4 years ended May 1, 1955, they purchased a total of 755 Mossberg scopes of two different kinds.
- 3. W. R. Weaver Company, El Paso, Texus, sold Belknap 2120 scopes of 19 different kinds during the 4 years ended May 1, 1955. This company's scopes are the only scopes which Belknap stocks for general use on various makes of rifles.

Belimap does not sell scopes to the price outting retailers since these firms attempt to buy them direct from manufacturers at cheaper prices than afforded by this jobber. Further, this firm has rejected no orders for scopes from any of its 30,000 customers except for credit reasons.

Belknap handles the Weaver scopes on a "fair trade lasis, notifying the customer by its printed catalogue as to the retail price but making no effort to ascertain if the purchaser charges its customers the proper price. Weaver notifies Belknap by a price list the three different costs, i.e., cost to jobber, cost to retailer, and cost to ultimate purchaser. This price list is published by Weaver when price changes occur and in b. lieved to have last been revised in August 1954.

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doubts if they sell many scopes to retailers for stock but get rders only when the retailer has made a sale or has a good prospect.

nes never to his knowledge, been furnished a "fair traded" agreement

Belkmap depends upon its printed prices in its catalogue carried by all of their salesmen and supplied to many of their customers as a mesms of notifying their retail customers concerning the retail prices of rifle scopes. Belkmap makes no attempt to police the retailers in smy fashion. They have never been advised that their retailers are selling scopes at cutrate prices. Should they be so advised, they would be very hesitant about notifying the manufacturer and probably would not do so because they know that the first thing the manufacturer would do would be write a letter to the retailer advising him of his improper pricing practices and divulging the fact that Belkmap was the source of their information. This would cause Belkmap to jeopardize other business with such retailers which would be far too great a price to pay over such an insignificant item as rifle scopes.

recalls no correspondence from W. R. Weaver Company advising that any of its oustomers were selling below the manufacturer's suggested list price. Belknap does adhere to the manufacturer's published prices insofar as their purchase price is concerned and their jobber price to the retailer. It is the belief of that probably the retailers adhere to the price published by W. R. Meaver Company in selling to their customers. Belknap has no idea who, at ong their 30,000 customers, have purchased scopes and could secure such information only by a search of their sales invoices which number several thousand each day.

Belknap retains its correspondence with manufacturers for a period of two years only. The correspondence between W. R. Weaver Company and Belknap for the two years ending May 1, 1955, was reviewed and nothing of significance to this investigation was found. In this correspondence were two letters from W. R. Weaver Company indicating that during 1953, Belknap purchased a total of about \$24,000 in rifle scopes and during the year 1954, purchased approximately \$21,000 of rifle scopes.

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LS 63-122

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFIRENCE: Bureau letter dated June 13, 1955.

60-4616 =

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Mr. Tolson Mr. Boardman Mr. Nichols Mr. Belmont DISTRIBUTION AND RETAIL ADVERTISING OF Mr. Harbo SCOPES AND MOUNTE; ANTITRUST Mr. Mohr. Mr. Parsons Mr. Rosen. beasive invectd endow conducted bared Mr. Tomm whitnest Division request of 1/31/15.Mr. Sizoo l montal regensus received and investiMr. Winterrowd an most recent request completed ration Tele. Room results of our investigation presented Mr. Holloman to Trans Tor. W., by Attorneys of Antitrust Division. Who case involves alleged efforts by Miss Gandy certain marrie cturers of rifle scopes and mounti to solder the se products are distributed and sold to blo bablic. It appears that publishers and sold to be mable. It appears that publishers all cortains magazines have it the request of manufacturers refused to accerate the result of firms which attempted to sell these sold out attempted to sell these sold out attentions in olved include the "accritant different" (official publication of the attent night accritate "Field and Stream; "published by senry holt and Company, ew Ye "Cutdoor Life," published by Popular Critace Publishin Company New York; "Hunting and Fishing," published by function, and Fishing Publishing Corporation, Chicago: "Sports Afield," Wash Post and published by Hearst Corporation, New York; and published by Hearst Corporation, New York; and "Fur-Fish-Came," published by A. R. Carding Publishing Co., Columbus, Chio. Manufacturers Times Herald Wash. News Wash. Star L involved include V. R. Mesver, El Tasc; Eausch and Y. Herold Lomb, Hochester, AY., Stith Scoves, San Antonio; Tribune Tribune Untertl Optical Company, Fittsburgh; and Lyman N. Y. Mirror . Gun Sight Corporation, Middletown, Connecticut, Daily Worker The Worker THE EVENING STAR B. le Association Head New Leader Washington, D.C. **
EDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1953 ries Price-Fixing) Date defining the process of the second partial association was one of the second partial of the second partial association was one of the partial part ing Co. New York, pub-of "Outdoor Life," and 60-4616 BEST COPY AVAILABLE the price and control advering in sporting magazines of
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or behavior the baselstion,"
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What besible motive bould a non-profit public service as-6 8 NOV 3 01955

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Ny Mols
Mr. Belmont
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Mr. Rosen
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Mr. Share
Mr. Winterroyd
Tele. Rose
Mr. Helkingan
Mr. Helkingan
Mr. Gan by

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(INDICTMENTS)

A FEDERAL GRAND JURY HERE INDICTED THREE PUBLISHING COMPANIES.
THREE MANUFACTURERS OF RIFLE SCOPES AND ONE DISTRIBUTOR TODAY ON CHARGES OF OPERATING ILLEGAL BOYCOTTS TO ELIMINATE CERTAIN RETAIL DEALERS FROM THE INDUSTRY.

THE INDICTMENT, ANNOUNCED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWNELL, SAID THE EFFECT OF THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY HAD BEEN TO STABILIZE RETAIL PRICES OF OPTICAL RIFLE SCOPES.

IT SAID THE MANUFACTURERS CONTROLLED 90 PER CENT OF THE NATIONAL DETICAL RIFLE SCOPE MARKET. THE SCOPES -- TLESCOPIC SIGHT -- ARE MOUNTED ON RIFLES AND EMPLOY OPTICAL GLASSES FOR MAGNIFICATION.

PUBLISHING COMPANIES NAMED IN THE ACTION WERE THE MATIONAL RIFLE RIFLEMEN; POPULAR SCIENCE PUBLISHING CO. NEW YORK CITY, PUBLISHER OF CUTDOOR LIFE; AND HENRY HOLT AND CO. NEW YORK CITY, PUBLISHER OF FIELD AND STREAM.

OTHERS NAMED WERE LYMAN GUN SIGHT CORP. MIDDLEFIELD. CONN.; W. R. HANUFACTURERS -- AND M. JACKSON-STITH. SAN ANTONIO, TEX., A DISTRIBUTOR; MANUFACTURERS -- AND M. JACKSON-STITH. SAN ANTONIO, TEX., A DISTRIBUTOR;

60-461

2 CUL 1955

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

Office Memorandum • united states government

TO : • • •

DATE: May. In.

FROM I

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SUBJECT:

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based on the original Antitrust Division request of 1/31/55. Several conclusion because of very second received the investigation resonant received the resonant received the resonant of our level times of our level times. The resonant of our level times of our level times.

This case involves alleged chlorts by certain mendiactic rifle scapes and mounts to control prices at which thise products distributed one sale to the public. It is ears that publishers of certain regardines have at the request of monufacturous refused to advertising of firms which attempted to sail thise products at out

The publications involved include the Wherican Riflemen's of publication of the National Rifle Association); "Field and Stream, Rabitah by Henry Holt and Company, New York; "Outdoor Life," published by Rockian Science Publishing Company, New York; "Runting and Fishing," published by Hunting and Fishing, "published by Hunting and Fishing Published Company, Califerent, Sports Afield," published by Hearst Company, New York; and "Fur-Fish-Game," published to the Reading Publishing Company, Columbus, Onio.

end Lowb, Managacharine involved include W. M. Weaver, Electrical and Lowb, Addressor, New York; Stith Scopes, San Entonio; Unterlication Continue Commonation, Mitsburgh; and Lynan Gun Might Cornoration, Middletown, Connecticut.

enors especially se thought would be included in the indicate which of the Grand Jany.

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None. This is for your information.

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(INDICTMENTS)

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THREE MANUFACTURERS OF RIFLE SCOPES AND ONE DISTRIP
CHARGES OF OPERATION LLEGAL BOYCOTTS TO ELIMINATE
THE INDICTMENT, ANNOUNCED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE INDICTMENT, ANNOUNCED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF OPTICAL RIFLE SCOPES.

OF OPTICAL RIFLE SCOPES

MOUNTED ON RIFLES AND EMPLOY OPTICAL GLASSES FOR
MOUNTED ON RIFLES AND EMPLOY OPTICAL GLASSES FOR
PUBLISHING COMPANIES NAMED IN THE ACTION WERE
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON, D.C., PUBLISH
WOUTDOOR LIFE: AND MINRY WOLT AND CO., NEW YORK
WOUTDOOR LIFE: AND MINRY WOLT AND CO., NEW YORK
THELD AND STREAT
OTHERS NAMED WE'RE LYMAN GUN SIGHT CORD.

MINGTON OF AMERICA. AND JOHN UNERTEL, PITTSP
MAYUFACTURERS — AND JACKSON STITH, SAN ANT

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TOR UNITEDIATE RELEASE

NOV 15 1955

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE STATE AVAILABLE

Attorney General Herbert Brewnell, Jr., announced that a federal Trianglem Mr. Winterrowd Trianglem Mr. Holleman Mr. Holleman Mr. Holleman Miss Gundy Individuals on charges of violating Section 1 of the Sherman Act in connection with the sale and advertising of optical rifle scopes. Named as defendants are the following:

Lyman Gun Sight Corp., Middlefield, Conn., a manufacturer;
W. R. Weaver, El Poso, Texas, a manufacturer;
John Unertl, Pittsburgh, Pa., a manufacturer;
M. Jackson Stith, San Antonio, Texas, formerly a
manufacturer's exclusive distributor;
The Wational Rifle Association of America, Washington, D. C.,
an incorporated association and publisher of the magazine
"American Rifleman";
Popular Science Publishing Company, Inc., New York City,
Publisher of the magazine Sutdoor Life"; and
Henry Holt and Company, Inc., New York City, Sublisher of
the magazine "Field & Stream."

"Scopes" are described as telescopic sights, employing optical glasses for magnification, mounted on rifles to enable more accurate aim than would be possible with metallic sights. Used extensively in hunting and target shooting, they are becoming increasingly popular with sportsmen. During 1954, retail sales exceeded \$5,000,000, with defendant manufacturers accounting for approximately 90 percent of all scopes manufacturered in the United States.

60-4616

The grand jury charges the defendants with combining and conspiring among themselves and with others to exclude so-called "off-list" dealers from the industry and to boycott them in a manner which has resulted in rejection of their advertisements by outdoors magazines. "Off-list" dealers are those who sell to consumers at less than the manufacturers' list prices.

PINCLOBURD E

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Mr. Haybo

The objectives of the conspiracy are alleged to have been accomplished by means of an understanding, among the defendants, effectuated by refusals to supply off-list dealers, coercion of distributors to adhere to resale prices and to refuse to sell to nonconforming dealers, and the advertising boycott. The over-all purpose of these activities is stated to be stabilization of retail prices.

Assistant Attorney General Stanley N. Barnes, head of the Antitrust Division, said:

"This case, which alleges exclusion of certain retail dealers from the rifle scopes business, presents issues involving both vertical price fixing imposed by the scope manufacturers and boycotts by the manufacturers and publishers against advertising of dealers who charge less than the manufacturers' list prices. Criminal action is instituted, in this instance, in line with the announced policy of the Department of Justice to seek indictments against violators wherever per se violations of the antitrust laws are considered to exist."

SAC, New York (60-1107)

November 18, 1959

Director, FBI (60-4616)

PISTRIBUTION AND RETAIL ADVERTISING OF RIFLE SCOPER AND MOUNTS ANTITRUST

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The Attorney General on 11/15/55 announced that a Grand Jury at washington, D. C., on that date indicted the following for violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act:

Lyman Gun Sight Corp., Middleffeld, Conn., a manufacturer;

W. R. Weaver, El Puso, Texas, a manufacturer; John Unertl, Pittsburgh, Pa., a manufacturer; M. Jackson Stith, San Antonio, Texas, formerly a manufacturer's exclusive distributor;

The National Rifle Association of America, Washington, D. C., an incorporated association and publisher of the magazine "American Rifleman";

Popular Science Publishing Company, Inc., New York City, publisher of the magazine "Outdoor Life"; and

Henry Holt and Company, Inc., New York City, publisher of the magazine "Field & Stream."

Washington Field, which has not conducted investigation in this matter, is being made office of origin to follow and report prosecution of this master in USDC, Washington, D. C.

New York, which has been origin, should submit an RUC report with the title changed to include names of above defendants. Furnment a port of pertinent serial to the new office of critical

oo: 2-Washington Field

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16 NOV 21 COMM - FBI

THE CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW	YORK	-	/		
REPORT MADE AT	l i	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	67C	v fr
TISTRIBUTION AN OF RIPLE SCOPES	D RETAIL AI	OVERTISING	CHARACTER OF CA		
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:			H7C		
Letter received that he had pla Rifleman! in No received a lett advertisement i	ced advert vember and ter from th	December, l is magazine	he "Americ 955; however	er, he had	
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1 CC ANTITRUST DIV			-4616	- *	9
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Justin 6-6	SHICHAL AGENT	(C) - 1)	THE STERN TON CO.	rate i to / care	
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AN 60-26

Colo.

Dec. 14, 1955

"Agent

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"Dear Sir,

Rifleman for the months of November and December, 1955 both of which were run as requested. However I mailed in an ad. to be placed in January 1956 issue, which was not accepted.

"Am enclosing letter I received from the Riflemen this date.

"I moved back to Colorado in August due to ill health; if necessary for you to get in touch with me, my address is:

Colorado

"Have noticed in December Rifleman magazine that they have been indicted along with several others. Will be glad to help in any way possible in this matter.

"Sincerely,

"/5/

The enclosed letter referred to by is dated December 7, 1955, and bears the signature F. A. MOULTON, "American Rifleman." The contents of the letter are as follows:

60-4616 = 114

AN 60-26

"We prefer not to accept your advertising for publication in the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, so our Accounting Department is sending you under separate cover our own check for \$4.80 in reimbursement for the advance payment remittance enclosed with your letter of Hovember 26th."

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU: (1)
(FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE ANTITRUST DIVISION)

A latter dated December 7, 1955, directed to Colorado, Colorado, American Rifleman."

- RUC -

60 - 4616 = 114

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AN 60-26

REFERENCES

tter to New York dated Murch 10,

SA 3. 1955.

at Anchorage dated

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60-4616 = 112

-4-

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

SAC, Vasaington Field

January 16, 1956

Director, FBI (60-4616)

LYMAN GUN SIGHT CORPORATION: ET AL. ANTITHUST

BEST COPY AVAILABLE Attached for each office is a copy of an Antitrust Division memorandum dated 1/12/56 which requests certain investigation in preparation for the trial of this matter. Letters addressed to the companies to be contacted are also forwarded herewith.

All offices except Portland have previously conducted investigation in this matter under the caption "Distribution and Retail Advertising of Rifle Scopes and Mounts; Antitrust." It appears that Portland will not require any additional background information to handle the present request. As indicated in the attached memorandum, a Grand Jury in the District of Columbia on 11/15/55 indicted four manufacturers and three publishers. Washington Field has been made office of origin to follow and report prosecution. All persons contacted are to be advised that the investigation is being conducted at the request of AAG Barnes, Antitrust Division. The fact that they were so advised need not be set out in reports.

Attention of all offices is directed to the fact that this matter is scheduled for trial on 2/15/56. The investigation requested by the Antitrust Division must be given preferred and continuous attention to permit completion of all investigation and submission of reports to reach the Bureau not later than 2/8/50.

COMM - FB Jan 1 6 1957 Enclos cc: 2-Dallas (60-237), with enclosures (2) MAILED 18 2-Indianapolis (60-219), with enclosures (2) 2-Los Angeles (60-471), with pholospines (3) 2-New Heven (60-143), with enclosing (2) 2-New York (60-1107), with energouses. 2-Pittsburgh (60-343), with enclosures 2-Portland, with enclosures (2) 2-San Francisco (60-4/3), with enclosure

JKP:1ge ι (20).,

Fare one

Office Memorandum . UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT Mr. Michols DATE: Feiruaru SUBTECT : HEMRY HOLT AND COMPANY, INC. BEST COPY AVAILABLE PUDPOSE: Per ir. Holloman's instructions to briefly set forth information concerning pending antitrast investigation in whick captioned or anization is involved. DETAILS: On January 31, 1955, at the request of the Department the Surea: opened an antitrust investigation in which captioned organization is a subject. The investigation was completed and reports were furnished to the Department. On November 15, 1955. an indictment was returned by a Federal Grand Jury, Washington, D. C., charging three publishers Wational Rifle Association publisher of The American Rifleman, Popular Science Publishing Sublisher of The American Augicimum, a special control of Company, publisher of Outdoor Life, and Penry Molt and Company, publisher of Field and Stream) and Jour manufacturers of rifle scopes for conspiracy to prevent retail price cutting in the sale of these rifle scopes. Since the indictment, the Bureau has been requested to conduct additional investigation. latest request having been received from the Department February 13, 1956. This investigation is now being conducted. All subjects have entered pleas of not guilty, and the case is scheduled for trial in Mashington, J. C., on May 28, 1956, CONTENDATION: For information. 60-4616 cc - Mr. Holloman Pr. Rosen (A. 33 FEB 23 1956

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1	FORM NO. 1 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASI	HINGTON FIEL	JD	L'	10				
	LOS ANGELES	MADE	724,27-29/56	REPORT MADE BY	JAD (A)				
***************************************	LYMAN GUN SIGHT	CORPORATIO	N; ET AL	CHARACTER OF CASE ANTITRUST					
	has not sold any rifle scopes to date. In signed statement advised that in early 1953, he had expensive guns which he desired to turn into cash. He traded guns for rifle scopes and other shooting equipment to facilitate sales. He ran ad in March, 1954 and November, 1954 editions of the American Rifleman; however, in November edition, he was not permitted to advertise scopes as new. American Rifleman refused to accept his copy in about January, 1955. Las no correspondents regarding the placing of these ads. The result of Los Angeles. California, filed Judgment and permanent injunction against under California Fair Trade Act. Photostatic copies of pertinant documents relating to this suit obtained. As result of suit, sold directly to Weaver twenty-six Weaver scopes at the jobbers list price. He estimated he lost approximately \$150 as a result of this sale. has maintained no records of the sales of other scopes, all of which were made through mail orders.								
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	1 Property		 بىقى .	The second secon					
	APPROVED AND // POV	ATA WIGHT		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACE	JKP/pg				
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	-{·	-4616)(Encl: GISTERED) Field (60- s (60-471)	C (4	-4616 F	48				
	6.5 MAKES 19	56			A V				

LA 60-471

DETAILS:

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McNama Comparthat to date relat Ruediger rif; Otto of Hildescope is a humarket on Apr

of the Maomi Avenue, Arcadia, tailiornia, advised than has not sold any rifle scopes. It the present time, he is promoting the which is manufactured wholly by Otto and most Germany. He stated that the Ruediger are and that he expects it to go on the

be of assista

inable to furnish any information that would is investigation.

On } was interviewe lowing signed

24, 27, 29, 1956, February 29, 1956, he furnished the fol-

"Pasadena, California February 29, 1956

free and identifie Federal Bushave been I realize

make the following

I statement to

I to me to be a Special Agent of the

Investigation. No threats or promises

me in order to obtain this statement, and

atement can be used in a court of law.

resently employed by

a t

and I presently reside california.

California items. My was in the Pasadena Firearms Company, Pasadena, company dealt in firearms and related nterest at Pasadena Firearms Company of firearms

factured sidomestic brany difficulthe sales

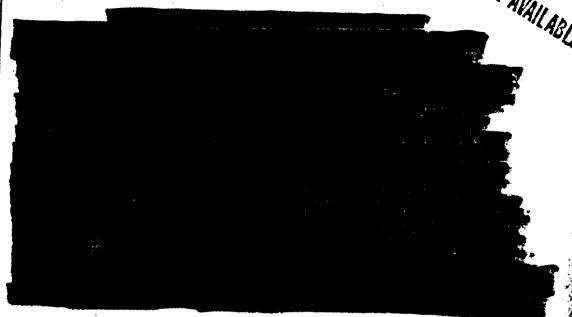
Tasadena old scopes for rifles which were manuthe United States, and they carried all
do not recall that this company had
the various manufacturers regarding regarding these scopes.

61-4616 - 148

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MC



through mail orders I moped to receive through the manager of ads in trade magazines. At the time idid not communer myself to be a dealer in rifle scores and was only improved in turning my guns into cash. During the early part and I had accumulated several scopes which I had obtained through trades for guns. I placed an adding the American Rifleman.

This ad was run in the I the American Rifleman.

It read as follows:

, California.

result of this ad I received inquiries at all hours of the night, and as a result I decided never to place an ad reflecting my true name or home address.

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148

LA 60-471

more rifle scopes, and I again sent in an ad to the American Rifleman. This ad was the same as the previous one which was run in the edition; however, on this occasion the ad was refused by the American Rifleman. They told me I could not advertise the rifle scopes as new ones despite the fact that all of the scopes I was advertising were brand new. When I agreed to run the rifle scopes as second hand articles and described them as perfect the American Rifleman accepted the ad. This ad was run on and read as follows:



"For the purposes of this ad I rented a box in California, and used name."

"In about I again tried to run an ad in the American Rifleman. This time they sent back my check and told me they would not run my ad under a conditions stating that my ad was in violation of Article IV of the General requirements applicable to classified advertising. According to the March, 1954 edition of the American Rifleman, Article IV reads as follows:

"'Transactions Based on Good Faith: Deliberate misrepresentation, or violation of the codes of good sportsmanship and good business ethics, will constitute grounds for refusal of advertising, and may result in disbarment from N.R.A. membership."

"I do not have any of the correspondence relating to the placing of these ads in the American Rifleman. I believe I must have destroyed all documents relating to this advertisement; however, I recall corresponding with FRED A. MOULTON who was in charge of advertising for the American Rifleman.

"During the same period I also placed ads similar to the one I placed in the edition of the American Rifleman in the Shotgun News. I had absolutely no difficulty In placing these ads.

LA Game?

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attorney and had been retained by w. R. weaver waspan to file suit against we under the fair trade i currespondes with State of California, Appearer at the office to: conference regarding unis matter Wine this conserve I was given the a ternative of the role all of the mosni Weaver scopes I had in my lissess in or states to court. I approved to return the se es low much were did not wer to go to the expense of sell reaver the scores court :- . . Jobbe: 's rise price : the matter I accepted such a signal

AT later received a letter cased in which he enclosed a tiny of a sour lame original and two copies of a stipulation and a copy of judement and permanent injunction. I executed the and copy of the stipulation and returne: it to office, together with the 26 Weaver scopes which I had possession. I received a sweak in the amount of \$579.2 these scopes. At this time I so set have any records in nosensation reflecting a breakdout on the scopes Lave to but I estimate that I lost eparaximately \$150 or selling these scores to weaver at the jobber's list price instead of the price at which I was divertising these not know if ever filed the above mentioned legal does ments in any court. I personally did not appear is court, and told me that he would hardle the entire matter. I have made available to for photostating pur the pertinent documents pertaining to the suit brought again me by for W. R. Weaver Company.

"I have maintained no records covering the sales of the above-described rifle scopes. All of my sales were made through mail orders.

"At this time I do not know how much money war received from the mail order sales of these scopes."

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60-4616 - 148

LA 60-471

"I have read this statement which consists of this and four other pages. I have initiated each page and the last two paragraphs of this statement are in my own handwriting. The information I have furnished in this statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/B/

"Witnessed: , Special Agent, F.B.I., Los Angeres - 2/29/55."

ads in the editions of the American Rifleman together with Article IV as set forth in statement, were copied from conies of these publications has in his possession. did not desire to lose custody of these publications at this time.

advised that sometime prior to May, 1955 he sold a weaver rille scope to through a mail order. It does not recall the exact details of this sale but stated that when he received first letter regarding the suit, he recalled naving sold as weaver scope through a mail order.

for photostating purposes are the photostats described as enclosures to this report.

During the course of the interview with the interviewing Agent observed no data which would cause him to be lieve that would be anything but a reliable withess in this case.

On February 28, 1956, the records of the county clery for Los Angeles County reflected that in Civil Case # a complaint under California Pair Trade Act - Injunction was Tiled by W. R. WEAVER, dba W. R. Weaver Company, against for in the Superior Court of the State of Carriornia in and for the County of Los Angeles. On the County of Los Angeles. On the County of Los Angeles. On the County of Los Angeles.

signed the judgment and permanent injunction and this deciment was filed on the latest photostatic copies of all of these documents are being made available to the Departs.

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-6-60-4616-148

ENCLOSURES:

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- To the Bureau for transmittal to the Antitrust Divisio
- 1) One copy of the signed statement of
- 2) Two photostatic copies of a letter dated 3, 2, 755 from to
- 3) Two photostatic copies of a letter dated 4,7 55 from to to
- 4) Two rhotostatic copies of a letter dated 4/12 55 from to
- 5) Two photostatic copies of a letter dated 5/2 25 from to
- 6) Two photostatic copies of the complaint file: 11 WEAVER against under California Pair Trade &
- 7) Two photostatic copies of stipulation regarding injunction.
- Two photostatic copies of a summons.
- 1) Two photostatic copies of judgment and personal injunction.

.. RU: -

LA 60-471

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>

It is being noted that there is only one withers to signed statement. No other witness was available at this time.

It is being noted that in their letter dated 2/10/56, regarding the interview of the Department requested that the interviewing Agent make a statement regarding the reliability of as a witness in this case.

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Los Angeles dated 2/16/56.

Bureau letter to washington Pield dated 2/16/56.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

				•
See ting Office	office of Origin	Bate	investigative Period	
ASHINGTON FIELD	WASHINGTON FIELD	1/30/57	1/18/57	
STRE OF CASE		Report made by		7774
MAN GUNSIGHT CORPO	RATION; W. R.		(A)	MES
E NATIONAL RIFLE	M. JACKSON STITH;	CHARACTER OF CAS	b7C	
PERICA: POPULAR SCI	ENCE PUBLISHING			
EMPANY INC.: HENRY	THOLT AND COMPANY.	AN Rg	TITRUST	
TRifle Scopes and	ind Retail Advertisi Mounts		BEST COPY AVAI	LABLE
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M. Jackson Stit 1500
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of America
Popular Science 110g 2000
Company, Inc.
Henry Holt and 10c. 2000

The above am f \$18500 has been paid in to

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13:6 - 160

WFO 60-531

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

A copy of this report is being designated for the New York Division for info purposes.

REFERENCE:

b70

Report of 1956, at Washington, D. C.

dated February 7,

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60-4816 - 160

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Rifle Sight Trust Suit Is Settled

Attorney General William P. Rogers announced Friday the entry of civil antitrust consent judgment which he described as "successfully terminature a civil antitrust suit in which the Government alleged mone plistic practices in the mai acture, distribution and adversing of telescopic sights itor udes.

The Government charged in an action filed in February, 1956, that a group of manufactions and the publishers; of the couldoor magazines had an agreement to eliminate trem the business so-called "ch-list dealers" not adhering to manufacturer's list prices. The consent judgment-agreed in United States District Court here Friday emploing cord in United States District, Court here Friday enjoins my price-fixing for telescopic sichls or any discrimination cainst supplying "of-list" leafers. The publishers are necifically prohibited from relating advertisements of the

The decree was entibed against these publishers. Name and Riffe Association of the Associ

it also saled to it facturers. Lyman Corp., Middlenon R. Weaver, El Page

John Doril, Pilison Jackson Stich formerly er's exclusive

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60-4616

Wash. Post and Times Herald Wash, News Wash. Star . N. Y. Herald Tribune N. Y. Journal-American N. Y. Mirror N. Y. Daily Ney N. Y. Times: Daily Worker The Worker

V 18 1957

New Leader



Department of Jusius

Attorney General William P. Rogers announced the entry today, in the Federal District Court in Washington, D. C., of a consent judgment successfully terminating a civil antitrust suit, filed on February 29, 1956, charging seven defendants with violating Section 1 of the Sherman Act in connection with the manufacture, distribution, sale and advertising of rifle scopes. Scopes are telescopic sights mounted on rifles for the purpose of aiming more accurately.

The defendants in the complaint were:

Lyman Gun Sight Corporation; Middlefield, Connecticut,

manusacturer; W. R. Weaver, El Paso, Texas, a manufacturer;

John Unertl, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a manufacturer;

M. Jackson Stith, San Antonio, Texas, formerly a

manufacturer's exclusive distributor;

National Rifle Association of America, Washington, D. C., an incorporated association, and publisher of the magazine

"American Rifleman";

Popular Science Publishing Company, Inc., New York City, publisher of the magazine "Outdoor Life"; and

Henry Holt & Company, Inc., New York City, publisher of the magazine "Field & Stream."

The complaint charged that the defendants engaged in a combination to eliminate "off-list dealers," who do not adhere to the manufacturers' list prices, from the scope business. It was alleged that the defendants agreed to demy off-list dealers access both to suppl appropriate advertising media, and that the defendants acted in implementation of these agreements? 2008070 - **8**0

The final consent judgment entered today enjoins the manufacturing defendants from any agreements to fix or maintain prices or to cut of

off-list dealers from their sources of supply or from advertising media, or to limit them in these respects; from any individual conduct aimed at price fixing or interfering with off-list dealers' access to supply and advertising; from all fair trade agreements for a period of seven years; from certain publicity and advertising for a two-year period. In addition, any manufacturing defendant who engages in consumer advertising is ordered to sell scopes, on non-discriminatory terms, to off-list dealers. The defendants publishing outdoors magazines are subject to injunctions against agreements simed at refusing advertisements of off-list dealers; and, for a period of 10 years, against individual conduct for the same purpose.

Assistant Attorney General Victor R. Hansen, in charge of the Antitrust Division, in commenting on the judgment, said:

"Attempts to control prices and to exclude competitors by practices such as those alleged to have been employed by these defendants have long been held to be illegal and cannot be tolerated in our free enterprise system."

66-4616 - 161

GUNSIGHT/CORPORATION LT AL ANTITREET (Fufile 60-4516)

Hurea rease closed. Seven defendants entered Note: Contend to pleas and were sentenced 1-4-57 to times ratalia, 548, 500.

Mr. Talson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mon*
Mr. Porsent
TOME HOW B 🗹
Mr. Tarin
Mr. T.otter .
Mr. 'iease
Tels. Room
t.r. Holloman
Miss Gandy
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THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCE THE FILTING OF A CONSENT DECISED OF ENDING CIVIL ANTITIOUS CHARGES ACAIDS TOVEN DEPENDANTS ACCUSED OF TOTAL SCOPES.

TO THE DEFENDANTS WERE ACCUSED OF ENGAGING IN A COMBINATION TO PUT "OFF-LIST DEALERS" -- TROSE WHO DO NOT ADPERE TO THE MANUFACTURER'S LIST FRICES -- CUT OF THE SCOPE SUSINESS.

SCOPES APE TELESCOPIC SIGHTS YOUNTED ON RIFLES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLERS -- COST ACCORDANTS.

AIMING GOFE ACCURATELY. THE DEPENDANTS NAMED IN THE COMPLAINT WERE: LYMAN GUN SIGHT CORP. MIDDLEFIELD, CONN.; V.R. WEAVER, EL FASO
TEX. A MANUFACTURER; JOHN UNERTL. EITTSBURGH. FA. MANUFACTURERS;
M. JACKSON STITH, SAN ARTONIO, TEX., DISTRIBUTORID MATIONAL RIFLE
M. JACKSON STITH, SAN ARTONIO, TEX., DISTRIBUTORID MATIONAL RIFLE
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PUBLISHED OF THE MAGAZINE FILLD AND STREAM.

PUBLISHER OF THE BAGAZINE TILED IN DISTRICT COURT HERE, FORBIDS ANY THE CONSENT JUDGMENT, FILED IN DISTRICT COURT HERE, FORBIDS ANY ACREMENTS TO FIX OF MAINTAIN PRICES OF TO CUT OFF THE SOURCES OF SUPPLY OF OFF-LIST PLALERS.

DEFENDANT VACAZINES WERE ENJOINED FROM REFUSING ADS OF OFF-LIST

DEALERS.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Deletions were made purelease to you.	rsuant to the exemptions in	dicated below with	n no segregable material available for
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SAC, Washington Field Office

From:

Director, FBI

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

BUDED: 10/31/68

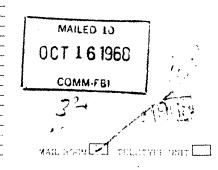
Enclosed for Washington Field are two copies of a Criminal Division letter dated 10/14/68 requesting investigation to determine whether the captioned organization should have registered with the clerk of the House of Representatives.

It will not be necessary to check with the clerk of the House of Representatives. According to the Criminal Division of the Department, this association is not registered with the clerk of the House of Representatives.

All interviews with officials of the National Rifle Association should be conducted by two mature Agents and persons interviewed should be advised that this investigation is being conducted at the request of Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. The requested investigation is to be expeditiously handled and a completed report submitted to reach the Bureau on or before 10/31/68.

Enclosures (2)

CTG: bap



REC-28/19-64-2

To:

SAC, Washington Field Office

From:

Director FBI

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

ReBusirtel 10/16/68 and Butelcall 10/23/68.

Enclosed are two Xerox copies of a Criminal Division letter dated 10/23/68 requesting that interviews of officers of the National Rifle Association be delayed until further advice is received from the Department. WFO should discontinue investigation pending Bureau advice. Surep reflecting investigation conducted to date.

Enclosures (2)

CTG:bap (4)

NOTE: Supervisor Washington Field Office, was telephonically advised on 10/23/68 by Supervisor

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October 24, 1968 GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case where the Department, by letter dated 10-14-68, requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with activities concerning gun registration legislation. Washington Field Office has been instructed to hold investigation in apeyance pending further advice from the Department.

CTG: hw

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1992 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOV: JMENT

Memorandum

то

Director, FBI

DATE:

10/22/68

FROM

SAC, WFO (119-49) (P)

SUBJECT:

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

(00:WFO)

ReBuairtel dated 10/16/68.

Inquiry at National Rifle Association revealed FRANKLIN L. ORTH, Executive Secretary, is with the Olympic Team in Mexico City and will not return until after 10/28/68.

WFO will submit report to reach Bureau by 11/7/68.

2 - Bureau 1 - WFO

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EVS:mer (3)

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD	
WASHINGTON FIELD	WASHINGTON FIELD	10/29/68	10/17-28/68	
NATIONAL RIFLE AS	SOCIATION	CHARACTER OF C	ASE DIC	ејј
		FEDERAL REC	GULATION OF LOBBYING	ACT
REFERENCES:	Buairtel to WFO WFO letter to Bu		, , ,	

- C -

Bureau airtel to WFO dated 10/24/68

ENCLOSURES

TO BUR FAU

1967 Operating Report NRA audit report dated 12/31/66 May 1967 issue of "The American Rifleman" NRA Bylaws

		ACC	OMPLISHMENT	S CLAIMED	IJ NO	NE	ACQUIT-	CASE HAS BEEN:	
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TEN 119-49

NRA Official Directory 1968-1966 3 Legislative Bullenties 3 NRA Form Latters

ADMINISTRATIVE

All persons interviewed were advised this investigation was being conducted at the remest of FPED M. VINGOM, JR. . Assistant Afternay General. Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

Inquiry at National Rifle Association of Imprica revealed FRANKLIN L. ORTH, Executive Vice President, was with the U.S. Olympic Team in Maxico City and would not return to Vashington. D.C., until after 10/28/58.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

157C

Report of: Date: SA 10/29/68

Field Office File #:

119-49

Office: Washington, D.C.

Bureau File #:

Title:

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Character:

FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

Synopsis:

FRANKLIN C. DANIEL, Secretary, NRA, advised their legal counsel informed them NRA contacts with members of Congress does not come under the Lobbying Act. He and FRANKLIN L. ORTH, Executive Vice President have contacted and been contacted by numerous members of Congress regarding legislative matters in the field of conservation, sport shooting and hunting, inasmuch as NRA is expected to have the technical know-how in these fields. NRA has no outside lobyists but individual members of NRA are encouraged to contact their respective Congressmen and Senators.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 10/23/68

PC

Mational Rifle Association of America (NRA), 16th and Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents. SA advised Mr. LUCAS of the nature of the inquiry. He was also advised that he did not have to make any statements; any statements that he might make could be used against him in the court of law; he had the right to consult with an attorney before making a statement and that he did not have to talk with the agents. He was furnished a Waiver of Rights form which he read and signed.

Mr. LUCAS stated that in addition to himself, the other officers of the association are: HAROLD W. GLASSEN, President, WCODSUN D. SCOTT, Vice President, FRANKLIN L. CRTH, Executive Vice President, FRANK C. DANIEL, Secretary. He stated that Mr. GLASSEN and Mr. SCOTT are honor officers and serve without pay. Mr. CRTH would be in charge of the MRA.

Mr. LUCAS stated that regarding contacts with various Senators and Congressmen he could only speak for himself. He stated he has had no direct contacts with any Congressman or Senator regarding pending legislation. He pointeded out, however, that he is well acquainted with several Congressmen and Senators and has been in contact with them but not regarding legislative matters.

Mr. LUCAS stated that the NRA is a non-profit organization whose primary effort is in the behalf of social welfare. It is considered to be in group 501C-4 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Mr. LUCAS stated that no person or company has been hired by the NRA to lobby against gun legislation. NRA hired Infoplan, 605 3rd Avenue, New York City from April, 1966 to

On 19/22/58	Mashington, D. C.	File#_VEC_1	19-49	
57C-SAS	and			
by	EVS:crb	Date dictated	10/23/58	

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WFO 119-49

March, 1968, to sell to the public the program of the NRA and to counteract unfavorable newspaper publicity. This organization was not in direct contact with any newspapers or Congress as representatives of NRA.

Mr. LUCAS advised that NRA notified members of NRA regarding the various pending legislation through a magazine entitled "The American Rifleman," speeches made by officers and Legislative Eulletins. Members of NRA are asked to do what they can to advance the program of NRA.

Mr. LUCAS made available the May, 1967 edition of "The American Rifleman," which on page 93 has a membership application. There is nothing in this advertisement wherein solicitation is made of members where they were informed that dues received would be used to support opposition to gun control legislation.

Mr. LUCAS also furnished the audit report of the association for the year 1966 made by STUY, MALONE and Company, CPA's, 7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington, D. C. He pointed out that this statement shows that for the calendar year 1966 \$150,083.19 were spent on a public relations campaign. amount, \$112,479.81 went to Infoplan for fees and expenses. \$10,000 was used for a float in the Rose Bowl Parade and \$10,954.98 was for sponsorship of a Freedom Foundation Gate at Vally Forge, Pennsylvania. The same financial statement indicated that \$58,204.14 was used for legislative expenses. \$22,598.18 of this amount was used for Legislative Bulletins and \$32,739.70 for salaries. The phamplet Legislative Bulletin is mailed to members in a certain area where there is pending legislation of a state or county in which NRA has an interest. These bulletins set forth the NRA's opinion regarding legislation. He further pointed out that the Public Relations Committee of NRA makes policy for NRA.

Mr. LUCAS further advised that several members of Congress are either past or present members of the association. Two of them are members of the Board of Directors. The NRA

WFO 119-49

3 has often appeared before various committees on proposed legislation and it is the opinion of the officers of NRA that they are not lobbying.

Mr. LUCAS furnished the following documents: Bylaws of The National Rifle Association of America; 1968-1969 official directory; May, 1967 issue of "The American Rifleman"; audit report of NRA as of December 31, 1966; 1970 Operating Report; three Legislative Bulletins; three letters sent to all members regarding proposed legislation. 1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date_10/23/68

FRANK C. DANIEL, Secretary, National Rifle Association of America (NRA), 16th and Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents. SA advised Mr. DANIEL of the nature of the inquiry; that he did not have to make any statement and any statement that he might make could be used against him in court of law, and he had the right to consult with an attorney before making any statement. He was also advised that he did not have to talk with the agents unless he so desired. He was furnished a Waiver of Rights form which he read and signed.

Mr. DANIEL advised that the NRA is well aware of the lobbying act and on the advice of legal counsel, was informed that the activities of NRA did not require them to register with the Congress or Senate as lobbyists.

Mr. DANIEL stated that the MRA is expected to have technical know-how in the matters of conservation, sport shooting and hunting and are contacted on an almost regular basis by Congress. He pointed out that there are several members of Congress listed as members of the Board of Directors. He stated that he personally has contacted numerous members of Congress and in turn been contacted by numerous members of Congress regarding matters of pending legislation. These contacts were usually by telephone. Often Congressmen call and want to introduce certain legislation and request NRA's help. Other times Congressmen are contacted and furnished NRA's opinion regarding proposed legislation. The NRA has testified before various committees of Congress regarding matters within this field.

Mr. DANIEL stated that he and Mr. FRANKLIN L. CRTH, Executive Vice President, contacted members of Congress as part of their job to promote the beliefs of the MRA. They are not

On 10/22/53 of Washington, D. C. File# WEC 119-49

| SAs | EVS:crb | Date dictated | 10/23/53

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WFO 119-49

2 paid for this other than their yearly salaries.

Mr. DANIEL stated that
Office of Public Relations, has no contacts as
such with members of Congress. He has, however, helped prepare speeches for numerous Congressmen when so requested. He
pointed out that any number of employees of NRA could be acquainted with Congressmen and receive request from Congressmen
for information. He and Mr. ORTH are the primary persons contacting members of Congress. He knew of no group of people
hired to lobby for NRA before Congress.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1			10/04/20
<u> </u>	•	Date	10/24/68

Public Relations, National Rifle Association of America (NRA), 16th and Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents. She advised of the nature of the inquiry and that he did not have to make any statements and any statements he might make could be used against him in a court of law. He was also advised that he could consult with an attorney before making any statements and he did not have to talk with the agents unless he so desired. He was furnished a Waiver of Rights form which he read and signed. He furnished the following information:

(V)

NRA is to get out news releases to newspapers, radios and the like to promote sport shooting, hunting, and conservation. General interest stories as well as speeches are prepared for dissemination to the news media. NRA has had a Public Relations Office for the past twenty years. Infoplan was given a contract in 1955 to get wider coverage in the fields of home and hunting safety. He advised that he did not contact any member of Congress and no employee in the Public Relations Section would regarding gun legislation. It is not their responsibility to solicit help from Congress so, therefore, it is not done. The NRA has no paid lobbyist. He did point out, however, that on request from various members of Congress the Public Relations Office would assist members of the legislature in preparing testimony.

On 10/22/53 of Washing	ton D. C.	File#_VFC113-49
	and EVS:crb	10/23/53
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AIRTEL

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To:

SAC, Washington, Field Office (119-49)

From:

Director, FBI (119-64)

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

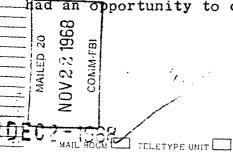
ReBuairtel 10/24/68.

Enclosed for the Washington Field Office are two copies of a Criminal Division letter dated 11/19/68 requesting that National Rifle Association officials be interviewed on approximately 12/3/68 in the presence of the Association's General Counsel. The two requested interviews and record review should be handled in accordance with the request of the Criminal Division and a report submitted promptly thereafter.

Enclosures (2)

CTG: bap (4)

NOTE: The Criminal Division of the Department by letter dated 10/14/68 previously requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should be registered with the clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with activities concerning gun registration legislation. This investigation included interviews of officials of NRA. Shortly after the investigation was initiated, the Criminal Division by letter dated 10/23/68, requested the Bureau to hold the investigation in abeyance until the Criminal Division had an opportunity to discuss the matter with the General Counsel.



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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	Section 552			Section 552a
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	Information pertained only to a third party request is listed in the title only.	with	no reference to the subject of yo	our request or the subject of your
đ	Documents originated with another Govern for review and direct response to you.	nment	agency(ies). These documents	were referred to that agency(ies)
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To:

SAC, Washington Field Office (119-49)

From:

Director, FBI (119-64)

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

Reurairtel 12/9/68.

Washington Field Office should discontinue further investigation in captioned matter. The Criminal Division of the Department has advised that according to the General Counsel of the National Rifle Association, this Association has indicated it will register as a lobbyist with the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

CTG: bap (4) 504

NOTE: The above information was furnished to Supervisor on 12/10/68 by Criminal Division Attorney is forwarding a confirming

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington Field Office, Room 506 Old Post Office Building

> Washington, D.C. 20535 December 9, 1968

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

On December 9, 1968,
National Rifle Association, advised a Special Agent
of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that he has been
trying to contact Fred M. Vinson, Jr., and
of the Department of Justice, regarding instant matter and
has been unsuccessful in contacting them. He advised he
would notify the Federal Bureau of Investigation on December 10,
1968, when the interviews with Franklin L. Orth and Harold
Glassen of the National Rifle Association will take place.

December 13, 1968

Washington

Dear

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter on December 11, 1968, and to thank you for your offer of assistance.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further question concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

MAILED 20

DEC 13 1968

COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

I Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover Director

CTG/1rk (3)

119-64 8

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

DEC24 1968

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NOTE

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 advised that an official of the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the correspondent.

TRUE COPY

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I understand that you are investigating the National Rifle Association. As a member of that organization, I wish to inform you of my whole-hearted desire to cooperate with your investigation. I believe that neither the N.R.A. nor the vast majority of its members have anything to hide.

Sincerely,



112C 39

TRUE COPY

Down 7722. Hower, I understand that you are intestigating the national Rifle- association. Che a minter of that organization, I wish to inform you of my whole-himilar disme to cooperate with your incertigation. I be live that neither the n. R.a. mor the west majority of the monders have anothing to hide.

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case, which recently received considerable press coverage, wherein the Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We have interviewed some officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The General Counsel of NRA is now delaying our further interview of two officials as well as examination of NRA financial records pending his consultation with the Department. The Department being advised of above in writing. Washington Field Office has been instructed to keep the Bureau advised of further developments.

CTG: bap

6

FBI

~				
Date:	1	21	12	168

	12/12/68
Transmit	the following in
Via	AIRTEL
V10	(Priority)
	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (119-64)
	FROM: SAC, WFO (119-49) (3)
	NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT
~	ReWFOairtel to Bureau dated $12/9/68$ and Buairtel to WFO dated $12/10/68$.
	Enclosed are four copies of LHM dated and captioned as above.
4°C	Information in the LHM was furnished to SA
	In the absence of any specific request from the Department of Justice, no further investigation being conducted by the FBI.
	SC SC
,	3 - Bureau (Enc. 4) 1 - WFO
	3 - Bureau (Enc. 4) 1 - WFO EVS: stb (4) 1 0E0 12 1959
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D.C. 20535 December 12, 1968

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT

On December 12, 1968, Benjamin J. Guthrie, Director of Legislative Processes, House of Representatives, advised a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that on December 11, 1968, Franklin L. Orth registered the National Rifle Association as a lobbying group.

In the absence of any specific request from the Department of Justice, no further investigation is being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FEL It is the property of the FEL and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

119-64-9

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December 13, 1968

REC 13 1/9-64-10

670

DC

Illinois

Dear

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 10, 1968, concerning investigation of the National Rifle Association by the FBI.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further question concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 20
DEC 1 3 1968
COMM-FBI

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

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CTG:bap (3)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO....

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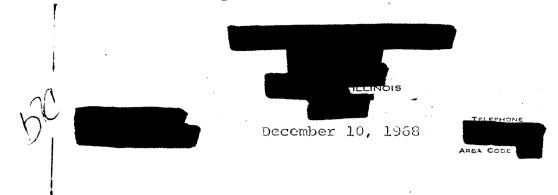
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NOTE:

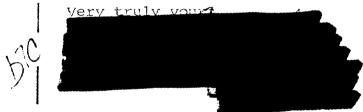
This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 advised that an official of the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the correspondent.



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover Pederal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am a member of the National Rifle Association and have been concerned about the F.B.I. investigation of this organization. I would like to know what you are investigating about the National Rifle Association and at whose request this investigation is being made.



DFR:pb

CC: Senator Everett Dirksen Senator Charles Percy Congressman Thomas Railsback

NEC 13 119-64-10

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CORRECT ON THE REAL PROPERTY.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

Mr. DeLoach

DATE: December 10, 1968

FROM

A. Rosen/

l - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

SUBJECT:

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION FEDERAL REGULATION OF LOBBYING ACT 1 - Mr. Bishop

50

Division, telephonically advised this date that according to National Rifle Association (NRA) this Association will register today with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist. In view of this, requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued and he is forwarding a memorandum confirming this request.

In this case the Criminal Division of the Department by letter dated 10/14/68 requested investigation to determine whether the NRA should be registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with activities concerning gun registration legislation. We previously interviewed three officials of NRA and interviews with other officials were held in abeyance on request of the Department.

ACTION: The above is submitted for information and you will be advised of further pertinent developments.

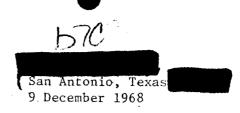
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DEC 23

119-64-1

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Mr J. Edgar Hoover Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Justice Department Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Sir:

The San Antonio, Texas, Express Newspaper carried the attached article on 7 December 1968.

I would like to volunteer my services for whatever they may be worth to your organization. I do this only with a view in mind of assisting in an unbiased manner and to help in any way I can.

I am a Life Member of the National Rifle Association

DC

been involved one way or another with small arms training and competitions since 1925, and in doing so, have of necessity, been involved with the National Rifle Association.

Recently, as you know, the integrity and intent of the NRA has become suspect in the eyes of the public. If the allegations are true, so be it. I am just as anxious as anyone to see the allegations brought out in the open, and if the NRA is working at cross purposes to the welfare of our country, then let the chips fall where they may. I have no so-called axe to grind, and, as stated above, I am unbiased. Anything I do, I hope will eventually help the soldier, sailor, Marine or Airman who has to carry a rifle in the interest of our country.

Sincerely yours,

119-64-12

Correction Contraction

FBI Probing Rifle Scoup

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI confirmed Friday it is investigating the National Rifle Association, an influential group that never has registered with Congress as a lebby.

The NRA, which has fought fiercely against gun-control legislation, contends it is an educational organization and does not engage in lobbying.

December 16, 1963

Honorable Thomas F. Railsback House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

Your communication of December 12. enclosing a copy of a letter from , dated December 10, 1968, has been received.

I received letter previously and have replied thereto. There is enclosed for your information a copy of my letter to dated December 13, 1968.

In accordance with your request, I am returning the copy of

Sincerely yours,

J. Edger Ecore

Enclosures (2)

CTG: bap (4)

119-64

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SEE NOTE PAGE TWO....

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Honorable Thomas F. Railsback

NOTE:

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a Tobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 adviæd that the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with Congressman Railsback is on the Special Correspondent's List.

b7C

SPECIAL

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Mashington, B.C.

December 12, 1968

Director of Congressional Relations FBI
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration.

Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed correspondence with your answer.

Yours truly,

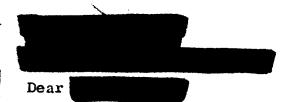
TOM RATIGRACK M. C.

TR:ss

REC 119-64-13

11月前五年8月

(6-14)



This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 9, 1968, with an attached news article, and to thank you for your offer of assistance.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further question concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

REC. TIA

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover Director

(119-64)

CTG: bap (3)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

MAIL HOOM TELETYPE UNIT

PCA-20 (12-3-96)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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December 17, 1968

REC 13 119-64-14

1 - 670

Honorable Allen J. Ellender United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Senator:

Your communication of December 12, 1968, enclosing a copy of a telegram from Louisiana,

The FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further questions concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

119-64

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See Note Page Two

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Honorable Allen J. Ellender United States Senate Washington, D. C.

NOTE:

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68, advised that an official of the NRA registered on 12/10/68, with the Clerk of the House of further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information have had previous limited cordial correspondence with

United States Senate

December 12, 1968

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Department of Justice Washington, D. C.

National Pople Association

The attached communication is referred to you for such consideration as is warranted and for a report on it.

I will appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Yours truly.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

REC-10

Pole 12/17/15 CZZ: A4

Mr. Sullivar Mr. Tavel. Mr. Trotter Tele. Room.... Miss Holmes... Miss Gandy_

Mr. Callahan. Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt ... Mr. Gale ... Mr. Rosen

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SEM ALLEN J ELLENDER WASHDO

A VIGOROUSLY PROTEST THE FLAGRANT GESTAPO ATHORITY OF THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF THE NRA STOP HAS THIS COUNTRY REACHED THE POINT WHERE ANY GROUP OF CITIZENS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STAND WILL BE SUBJECTED TO THIS FEDERAL NAVO, AS MY REPRESENTATIVE I DEMAND YOU ACT NOW TO STOP THIS

57C

ATTORNEY

LA.

December 17, 1968

Jersey

Dear

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 14, 1968, concerning investigation of the National Rifle Association by the FBI. together with enclosures.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further question concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover John Edgar Hoover Director

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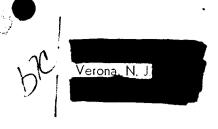
SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM TRILETYER UNIT

57C

NOTE:

(This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 advised that an official of the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued.) Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the correspondent.



December 14, 1968

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you because I read in the New York Times that the FBI was conducting an investigation of the National Rifle Association to determine whether or not it was a lobbying group. I also understand from radio commentators! remarks that the question of whether or not the NRA is an educational group is pertinent.

I am not connected with the NRA in any way, but I am disconcerted by many things that are happening in our country, among which are recurring attepts to discredit persons (as you surely must know) and organizations which contribute to the well-being and security of this country.

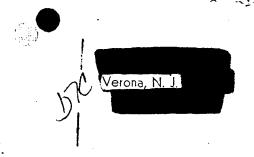
If there is any question as to whether or not the NRA is an educational organization, the attached Xerocopies of clippings from our local newspaper should be enlightehing. They concern the death of Ed Fichter, who was a certified instructor of the National Rifle Association... The Verona Rifle Club, under his leadership and under the auspices of the NRA, has been one of the finest influences for the boys of Verona for twenty years.

was careful to select boys for his club who were emotionally stable, but aside from that, any boy who would earry his load was welcome. have never heard of a boy who learned the use of firearms at the Verona Rifle Club who got into serious trouble or who misused the knowledge that he gained. Many have served and are now serving in the armed forces and have been outstanding marksmen.

I presume that the investigation of the NRA results from its opposition to gun control legislation. In my opinion, it is fortunate that one group spoke up in opposition to prevent emotionalism from

SEC-19 119-64

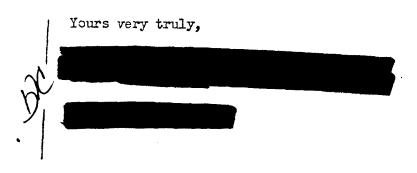
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holding sway over intelligence in this legislation. I do not believe that legislation or registration of guns could have prevented the events which led to the cry for gun control legislation, nor do I believe that it will prevent criminal and lawless elements from obtaining guns. It may, however, if the NRA is destroyed or discredited, mean that fewer decent, patriotic, law-abiding young men will know how to handle a gun.

I understand that the NRA has recently filed as a lobbying organization, apparently as a result of the proposed FBI investigation and as a protection against prosecution. I question why the NRA was selected at this particular time for investigation from among the 500,000 organizations which enjoy tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Service regulations, and I question how many of these organizations could stand investigation as being non-profit and non-lobbying. In my opinion, the NRA is as much, and possibly more, concerned with education and the welfare of the country than many other so-called educational groups. In all fairness, it would be equitable to investigate all organizations enjoying tax-exempt status and to determine how many have refrained from attempting to influence legislation.

If you will accept the premise that education concerns more than facts from a book, I believe that you will conclude after reading the enclosed clippings that the NRA, through Ed Fichter and the Verona Rifle Club, was truly involved in education.



Copy to: National Rifle Association

Edwin Fichter, Rifle Instructor

Services for Edwin L. Fichter of 48 Elmwood Rd., Verona, will be held this evening at 7:30 at the Arthur K. Brown, Inc., (Home for Services), 620 Bloomfield Ave., Verona, with the Rev. Walter M. Moore, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Verona, officiating. Interment will be in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Mr. Fichter died Sunday at Mountainside Hospital. He was 65.

Though he was born in Caldwell, Mr. Fichter had lived in Verona 64 years. He was employed as a brushmaker with Keifer Brushes, Verona.

A certified instructor of the National Rifle Association, Mr. Fichter organized the Verona Junior Rifle Club 20 years ago. He was a Boy Scout Leader for the Troop at the Verona Presbyteriaa Church for the same number of years.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. John Reeves of Cedar Grove.

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UERONA - CEDAR GROWE TIMES

DERONA, N. J.

High on a Hillop

Verona lost a "friend" last week. More specifically, Verona boys lost one of their best friends. Ed Fichter whose entire life was devoted to Scouting and in more recent years to the Verona Junior Rifle Club has passed from the scene. He was a quiet man and until the last retained that clusive quality which stamps the eternal young. His countenance bore a quizzical look always. At a moment his face could light up into a boyish grin. There was something implish about him. At times he resembled a fleeting leprechaun, ready to reveal hidden treasures to anyone who could keep in step with him.

He knew of many treasures that exist in the woods, on mountains, in the trees and in the sky. He had a cabin on a mountain, a tumble-down shack in a way, but a magical place where he would take his boys on weekends. By the light of an old stove, oil lamps, occasionally candles he would weave ghost stories to the delight of his followers as the moon cast eerie shadows outside the clearing and the wind whistled through the broken rafters. There were times when he arranged more sophisticated outings to the Maine woodlands. Once we asked him how many boys he could remember having been under his tutelage. He reflected a few seconds, "Hundreds,' he guessed. He was something like the fabled "Mr. Chips." He had many boys whose names he could recount one by one, placing them in certain categories, years and eras.

Among his prized possessions were letters from some of his "boys "who fought in World War II, in the Korean War, in the War in Vietnam. They wrote as friends, which they were, and mostly they attested to the training he had given them while in the rifle erganization. I don't think I'd be around without having been privileged to learn everything you taught me," one wrote whose mastery of guns had saved him in a Vietnam ambush. He never thought of boys as being different in any age. "Outward appearances don't mean a thing," he said once in discussing to-day's prevailing dress and mannerisms. "Inside a boy is always a boy."

Youngsters who met him for the first time couldn't always figure him out But they learned quickly that was because they regarded him as one of the "grown-ups" and when they realized that he was one of "them," a bond of affection soon developed. He made them understand first of all that membership in the rifle club was contingent upon discipline and respect. He stressed care in the handling of all firearms and he took pride in the club's record of safety. He had hoped someday to have a clubhouse in the community and an indoor rifle range but his efforts towards this end were not achieved. Some day, perhaps, they will be. In recent years, he was successful in having others help him in his endeavors and the club which he headed for twenty years underwent more intensive organization. Those who worked with him are not apt to abandon his dream. His "boys" are not likely to forget. He was a patient man and he probably is still willing to wait, "When you aim for something like this," he said a couple of years ago in speaking of the possibility of a club headquarters,

119-64 - Compare to be certain of your sights and then not the fitter. It seems certain that those who were most construct his aim.

SPEARS FOR CLUP MEMBERS

Editor, The Times:

On Sunday, Nov. 24, Ed Fichter, rifle instructor of the Verena Junior Rifle Club died. Ed was like a second grandfather to me. I had many wonderful times with him.

I was fortunate to know him for three years. In these years I learned many things from him. He helped me at the gun club, teaching me the proper use of guns, but more important he taught me how to be a better pernon.

I spent three vacations with Ed and some of the other boys in the club during the Summer at Stokes Forest. It was Ed's two weeks vacation and he enjoyed spending them with us. On weekends during the year we would go to the cabin in West Milford. New Years Eve, Ed would ask some of us to the house to

celebrate the arrival of the new year.

I know I speak for all the boys in the club, and for anyone who knew Ed that our lives were made richer through our association with him.

I can remember when I first joined the club. I didn't do too well with my targets. Ed had patience and encouraged me when I would get discouraged. When at the end of the year some of us "poor" beginners would be awarded a trophy for doing well. I think Ed got just as much a thrill as we did.

The gun club will not be the same without him, and I'll miss him very much. I hope however, that somehow the club will continue as Ed would have wanted it to.

I hope that by reading this letter, people will come to know and appreciate what this man stood for and what he tried so hard to teach us by his exemplary life.

RICHARD FERGUSON Verona, N.J., Dec. 2, 1963

him was a unique experi-

Ed dedicated his life to youth. For twenty years he was Boy Scout Leader at the Presbyterian Church and later organized the Verona Junior Riffe Club for the same amount of years. For most men, once a week instructing the boys in the handling of guns would be enough, but for Ed seven days a week wouldn't be too much.

Many nights boys would stop in at his house just to talk and hear about trips he had taken and experiences he had in previous 55 years. Considering Ed was 65 years old, you can see that the difference in age meant nothing to the boys. It was just being there with him that counted. He gained the respect of these boys something many parents to-day wished they had.

How inexpensive time is if you are willing to give of yourself. Truthfully how many of us give time to anything unless we can see something in it for ourselves. Ed had time, it was free, and he didn't waste it. I know he always tried to help others. He never complained. This was the way this man lived. He spoke only good of people. We know things weren't always easy for him, but somehow he'd never let you know it.

Meet of us measure ourselves by the noterial prescadons we have in life, Ed was rich in the satisfaction of dedication and always lived life as best be could in the short time be had.

He was especially proud of the many letters he received from former club members now serving in Vietnam. There was no "generation gap" between Ed and these boys. He had gained their respect and they never forgot him.

It pleased us to see so many pay their last respects to such a fine man. There were the young members in the club, previous members, and parents of boys showing their gratitude for 'all he had done for their sons.

Even the day he died he was with the boys, trying in some small way to help at their annual fund maker.

For those that didn't get to know him, I'm sorry, for there are not many Ed Fichters around. Our only regret is that after Ed gave so much to the youth of Verona, he never was able to obtain his wish for his own range in Verona.

MR. & MRS. J. FERGUSON Verona, N.J., Dec. 2, 1968

FRIENDS PAY TRIBUTE Editor, The Times:

It has been a week since we heard that Ed Fichter had died and still we can't believe that he is gone. We are not writing just because Ed was our friend, but to try in some way explain what this man meant to our three boys and to so many people.

There are words that could simply describe him—kind, patient, dedicated, humble, appreciative—but they only tell a small fraction of the his his led, dust to know

This humble man gave of himself, unselfishly, for over forty years to the service of youth during a most impressive and formative time of their live. We were most fortunate to have had our son under Ed's guidance for the past five years. Please God, the high character of this man shall live on in the many boys and girls who were so fortunate as to

GAVE LIFE TO YOUTH

Editor, The Times: At Thanksgiving this year

we were most grateful for

our family and friends. We

especially thanked God for

having given us an Ed Ficht-

or Whom He chose to call

back to Him this week.

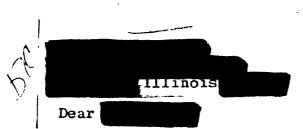
have had Ed Fichter as their friend and guide. JOAN and JIM CARROLL Verona, N.J., Dec. 2, 1968 BEST COPY AVAILABLE

DEC 5, 1968

VERONA - CEDAR GROUE TIMES

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57C



This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 14, 1968, concerning investigation of the National Rifle Association by the FBI.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further question concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover Director

(119-64)CTG: bap

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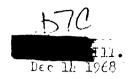
correspondent.

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 advised that an official of the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the correspondent. The November, 1968, telephone directory for Illinois, reflects a listing for

... Illinois, and no first name is listed for the

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J Edgar Hoover F E I Washington, D C

Dear Sir:

I note you have been ordered to investigate the National Rifleman's Association or that is what our paper states.

The following are some of the observations I have made over the years and now it seems they are coming to a head. At the time Spain was taken over by the communists, Spain for some time had had a gin regristration law. I once saw a movie depicting the actual riots and take over of that country by the commiss. It showed private citizens being forced to give up their hand gins, rifles etc. It stated that there were lists of these gins so that it was made easy for the commiss to know where the gins were. What a deadly narallel to our country at present.

It might seem that we had three instances happened here which brought up the ideas that a µn law would be the thing in the US A. At first after these affairs it seemed public sentiment all was for this regristration and licensing. Later when the public had time to think the letters run against it. The Maticael Aifleman's Association carried on a bitter fight.

I also heard a speech about the year ago given by a small manufacturer. He had carried on a one man fight against some of the things which were being done in the manufacture of ammunitions and gins for our government for the war in Vietnam. It seems faulty workman ship was being ordered by someone higher up to do this. He was told to lay off or he would lose his orders from the government. He was patrictic and did not 19-64-16 lay off. He was harrassed, disgraced and finally ruined for his efforts.

There might be some connection of this investigation against the N R A because of their determined stance against the fun registration law. It would not surprise me. There have been other things come up lately where some one or some company has been brought up before the I E S for some farcied reasons when that individual or company had min against things were not right but were being done because someone higher up favored doing them.

I doubt if you are at liberty to disclose who gave the order to investigate the N F A. But if you are I would like to know who gave the order. Just like the order given the Puebelo officers not to resist the hijacking of that boat. And also who gave the orders for the other U S boats close by not to interfere. It seems such orders were given.

Thanks for having patience to read this, if you were given the letter to read. After Jan. 1969 there might be some change, let us hope so.



KEC 85

December 16, 1968

Uklahoma

Dear

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter on December 13, 1968, concerning investigation of the National Rifle Association by the FBI.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further question . concerning this matter you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

Edger Hoover

John Edgar Hoover Director

(119-64)

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SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

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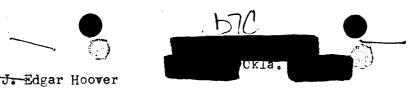
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Documents originated with another for review and direct response to you	Government agency(ies). These do	cuments were referred to that agency(ies)
Pages contain information furnishe to the releasability of this information	d by another Government agency(ion following our consultation with	es). You will be advised by the FBI as the other agency(ies).
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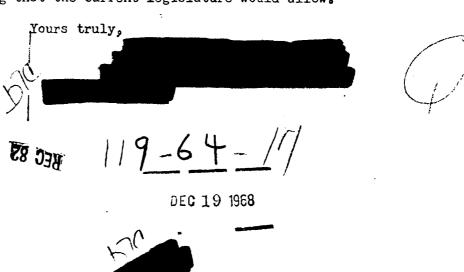
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Mr Hoover:

I believe I heard on radio that your office had been asked by a legislator to investigate the grounds on which the National Rifle Association claims tax exemption.

If you have not already done so, I suggest that you begin with Senator Tydings. That senator declared on national television—presumably a non-privileged utterance— that this organization is supported by the Arms manufactubers and he at least hinted that it had no right to claim tax exemption.

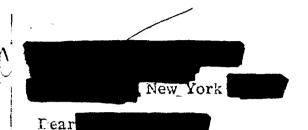
I know members of this association who unhesitatingly describe it as a "lobby." A local man guessed that Senator Monroney perhaps lost 100,000 votes in Oklahoma merely for his sponsoring to some extent the "fly-speck" Act which is the only thing that the current legislature would allow.



REC 27 119-64-18

December 17, 1968





Thank you for your letter of December 7th, with enclosure. It was kind of you to give me the benefit of your observations.

For your information, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation.

The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and you may wish to contact that office. I can assure you that the FBI will continue to discharge its responsibilities with the same high degree of impartiality, thoroughness, and dispatch which have characterized our investigations in the past.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Froures





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NOTE: Bufiles show one prior outgoing to correspondent in 1954 regarding a firearms identification matter. He is otherwise not identifiable in Bufiles. During our investigation of this matter, we

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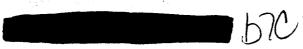
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NOTE continued: interviewed three officials of National Rifle Association (NRA) and furnished the Department with an investigative report. On December 10th, the Department advised that an official of NRA registered on that date with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist, and the Department requested that any further investigation by the Bureau be discontinued.

December 7, 1968

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This morning, I picked up my copy of the Rochester DEMOCRAT Miss Gandy CHRONICLE and glanced at the front page. As it is the "Day of Infamy", it was fully expected to find bold type pertaining to Pearl Harbor.

However, what I saw on the front page reaffirmed what the day is, and doubled it in spades...FBI Investigates NRA.

This letter is not being written as a slam against your organization, and I have a terrific amount of respect for the FBI, and from time to time,

It is realized that you are in the middle on this action involving MRA. It is obvious that there are people in high position that wish to see MRA die a quick death, in order to have little opposition to both restrictive firearm laws and total confiscation of all weapons. It is further obvious that some of these same people would back illegal overthrow of our government.

As a member of NRA, I resent this action involved, but realize that it has to be, to eliminate slams and innuendos against MRA. From articles and statements made by you, in the past, I believe that you realize fully what NRA is and what they do and what they have done.

The "nickel and dime" tax angle, from being labelled a possible lobby, is their, the "anti gun" people's, possible weapon against MRA. As a grass roots member of MRA, and thoroughly reading all of the items that they release to the public, it is strictly education of facts and legislative happenings. In New York State, a MRA Hunter Safety Course is the way to a hunting license. This is definitely an education to preserve freedom of our great country in all, respects.

What galls me probably the most is this. Some of the loudest people wanting NRA's hide are members of the largest "lobby" going, although not labelled. They and their organizations have meddled in politics for years. Much of their doings are directly responsible for crime in the streets, riots and murders. They hold billions in TAX FREE properties, and are corporations unto themselves. Some involved would take over government by any means, including screaming at NRA and sneak in where they can to grab what they can, while protective organizations are busy "ghost hunting". You know who I mean. THE CHURCHES! I wonder how many, tomorrow, will mention Pearl Harbor and then Monday, back to work!

The newspapers working over MRA whenever possible are the mouthpieces. Today, in my mail, another little gem came to light. Many papers
carried articles blaming the NYS Motor Vehicle Bureau for selling their
registration lists and are responsible for junk mail. An explanatory
letter, in answer to a letter I wrote, spelled out their involvement.
It directly charged the papers as twisting the facts. I have other letters
stating the same thing...twisting of facts by newspapers to suit their

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Mr. Lasber
Mr. Collavan
E'r. Conrad
Mr. Feit
Mr. Gale
Mr. Gale
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosel
Mr. Sulfivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy
Mry "

EXP-PROC.

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whims. Another, very portant one, involved a st ement that the Boy Scouts of America was considering dropping the marksmanshin merit badge in their program. This was simply not true!

Under the Boy Scouts, protesting this action

Another twisted bit. As days pass, the number of misinformation increases. I can see editorials blasting organizations and individuals, but to make NEWS ARTICLES editorials, this is not right, in any sense.

We wonder who is responsible for all this mayhem in the United States. Sir, it is obvious who plays what roles, despite the noisy ghost hunters, shifting blame wherever possible, other than at their doorstep. True, the involvement is numerous, so ALL chips should fall to the respective doorsteps.

Mr. Hoover, I write this letter as a simple request. In the name of humanity and freedom, please be fair to whatever organization comes under attack or investigation. As in the past, continue to insure that you whole organization is fair and factual, despite political pressures and whims of individuals and money.

If MRA is a lobby, it can be only a lobby insuring freedom and return to sanity and common sense. MRA was the respect of many...the FBI has the respect of many. Are not both of the organizations working for the same roal, although from different positions? Has the FBI ever been called a lobby?

Please continue to just be fair.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours.



Fellow Sportsman:

We are in the midst of the hunting seasons and therefore our guns are foremost in our activities...AT THE MOMENT:

In three weeks, the deer sesson will be about done. Our guns will be oiled and returned to storage for next year. Our thoughts will turn to the hustle and bustle of Christmas, snowblowers, overtime at work and just about everything other than the shooting sports.

There are some people who do not forget about our sport! Each and every day it is in their minds. Many of these are the really dedicated of the hobby. Indoor target work, rabbits and fox pursuit in snowy fields, planning of next year's trip, looking to taking their sons on their first hunting are the thoughts.

However, another small, but dedicated group is about! These are the people with thoughts contrary to free use AND ownership of ALL guns. Like the one rotten apple in the barrel, it will spoil the whole barrel. It has to be removed before all is lost.

With apples, it can be spotted easily and quickly removed. However, with people, it takes longer to find and remove the spoilage. There are those of us who have worked long and hard to find these people, provide the factual education to alleviate the myths in their minds. Working for the best of legislation for all, we've managed to work in.

We are a very tired bunch! At times, we wonder whether we are really doing much to help our sport. We feel that we have done our part. We look for people to take over the load and fight! Very few come forward, so renewed dedication is our only answer!

YOU, the nimrod and experienced, can REALLY DO YOUR PART...NOW! You have all heard of the National Rifle Association. Many of you have thought of joining, from time to time, but have not. Some of you may only know of NRA through the daily press AND perhaps in a bad light.

MRA has been behind every gun owner and free citizen for NEARLY ONE HUNDRED YEARS. They have trained shooters in accuracy and in the best of shooting safety. They have provided the best in open competition on ranges. Many of our nation's heroes in fighting for freedom and keeping it have been NRA trained. They have fought for decent legislation at all levels, favorable to ALL citizens. In essence, NRA is a MAJOR part of our great heritage. I think that it is safe to say, and history prove, that this one organization has been foremost in keeping America free.

Five past presidents of our great country have been NRA members. Now, a sixth is about to take office. Richard Nixon is a LIFE MEMBER of NRA. Another great hero can be spawned...with YOUR help.

119-64-18

How can you help? The best of legislation can be REALITY for YOU! The atrongest organization of responsible gun owners, ever, is here, ready to serve you. Your voice will join the loudest chorus ever conceived, for freedom for ALL.

NRA has ONE MILLION MEMBERS, from all walks of life, BUT WE NEED YOU! Your membership insures ONE MORE VOTE for decency and return to sanity in this country. Your thoughts and ideas to this end will join others to insure this reality.

The yearly dues are YOUR insurance policy for that gun of YOURS to stay in YOUR home. Your monthly magazine, "THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN", is terrific and worth the cost of membership alone. How much is YOUR membership? Just \$6 regularly. However, I'm sending in a group of your fellow shooters...at ONLY \$5 per membership.

Drop s hint for Christmas, there is an idea! Or drop a line to NRA, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Or, drop a line or call me and I'll do the paperwork. Any NRA member will also help you.

1969 is the year of decision for us and whether we will be ALLOWED to OWN our guns. Join with Richard Nixon as your hunting partner and EACH AND EVERY responsible gun owner as YOUR friend.

Call me NOW: or drop a line. Sign up NOW and I'll hit you for the \$5 after January 1st should you wish...or any time inbetween.

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Yours for the best in your shooting sports,

I hereby sooly for membership in the National Rifle Association, including a subscription to "THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN". I certify that I am a citizen of good repute of the United States of America; that I am not a member of any organization or group having as its purpose or one of its purposes the overthrow by force and violence of the Government of the United States or any of the political subdivisions; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence; and that, if admitted to membership, I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.

		(Signati	ire)
Name	Add	ress	
City	State	Zip	Age

Make checks payable to NRA.

December 19, 1963

Honorable Earle Cabell House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

Your letter of December 1968, enclosing a letter from Dallas, Texas, concerning our investigation of the National Rifle Association has been received.

The FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further questions concerning this matter, you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

You may also wish to advise your constituents that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not determine whether prosecutive action will be undertaken in any situation. Such decisions concerning violations of Federal law are within the province of the Attorney General. Voluminous data regarding riots and rioters have been furnished to the Attorney General.

I am enclosing some material which you may wish to send to your constituents and I am returning the constituents' letter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)

CTG/178 SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

Honorable Earle Cabell

Description of enclosures:

- (1) Statement of Director before the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, 9/18/68.
- (2) Message from Director entitled "An Analysis of the New Left: A Gospel of Nihilism."
- (3) Message from Director to all Law Enforcement Officials, May, 1968.

NOTE

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68, advised that the NRA registered on 12/10/68, with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the constituents. We have had cordial relations with Congressman Cabell in the past.

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1121 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING PHONE: 225-2231

> ROOM 716 - 1114 COMMERCE PHONE: RI 9-3571

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

December 13, 1968

SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS

SUBCOMMITTEE: MANNED SPACE FLIGHT

HUGH G. HART, JR. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MRS. JENNIE GRINDBERG

Mr. Conrad_

Director Office of Congressional Liaison Federal Bureau of Investigation The Department of Justice Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a letter received in my office from in which they are protesting the FBI's investigation of the National Rifle Association.

I would greatly appreciate your comments on this matter so that I might know how to respond to their communication.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance, I am

Sincerely,

EARLE CABELL, M. C.

EC:jb Enclosure

DEC >6 1958

Dallas, Texas December 6, 1968 570

Hon. Earle Cabell United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Note Rife and

I must strongly protest the FBI investigation of the NRA. It is an insult to the organization and to the 1,063,355 members. When you investigate the NRA, you investigate me.

Let's be constructive. Let's get some effective legislation through. Let's investigate, and not whitewash the riots, rioters and especially the instigators of the riots. Let the law abiding citizens live in peace.

Dillas, Taxas

119-64-19

ENCLOSURE

December 20, 1968

Honorable Charles H. Percy United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Senator:

Your communication of December 15, 1968 enclosing a copy of a letter from , dated December 10, 1968, has been received.

I received letter previously and have replied thereto. There is enclosed for your information a copy of my letter to dated December 13, 1968.

In accordance with your request, I am returning the copy of letter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)

EX-103 CTG: DC
(4)
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See note page 2

MAILED 21 DEC 20 1968 COMM-FBI

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Honorable Charles H. Percy

NOTE:

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68, advised that the NRA registered on 12/10/68, with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with Previous correspondence with Senator Percy has been cordial.

Mnited States Senate

December 15, 1968

Illinois

re: National Rifle Association investigation Respectfully referred to

Federal Bureau of Investigation

for such consideration as the communication herewith submitted may warrant, and <u>for a report</u> thereon, <u>in duplicate</u> to accompany <u>return of inclosure</u>.

By direction of

Charles H. Percy/bb

GEPARIMENT OF SUIT S. S.

DEC 12 1968

TE. W.

MU1-12

MG. DIV

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated explain this deletion. Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you. Section 552 Section 552a □ (b)(1) \Box (b)(7)(A) \square (d)(5) \Box (b)(2) \Box (b)(7)(B) \square (j)(2) \Box (b)(3) \Box (b)(7)(C) \square (k)(1) \Box (b)(7)(D) \square (k)(2) \Box (b)(7)(E) \square (k)(3) \Box (b)(7)(F) \square (k)(4) \Box (b)(4) \Box (b)(8) \square (k)(5) \Box (b)(5) \Box (b)(9) \Box (k)(6) \Box (b)(6) \square (k)(7) ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request or the subject of your request is listed in the title only. Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you. Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies). Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date. Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of 119-HO-64-10

1e Her dated 12-13-68 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Deleted Page(s)

XXXXXX XXXXXX XXXXXX 119-64-21

Honorable William L. Scott House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

Your communication of December 13, 1968, enclosing a letter from concerning our investigation of the National Rifle Association has been received.

The FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further questions concerning this matter, you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

With respect to the other inquiries, I can tell you the FBI has conducted a considerable amount of investigation regarding the subversive movement which threatens our country today. Being strictly an investigative agency of the Department of Justice, we have furnished the results of our inquiries to the Attorney General for his opinion with respect to prosecution in these matters.

I am enclosing some material which you may wish to send to your constituent and, in addition, I am returning the constituent's letter pursuant to your request.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4) CTG: ban (4) MAIL ROOM L

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO....

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Honorable William L. Scott Description of Enclosures: Statement of Director before the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, 9/18/68. Message from Director entitled "An Analysis of the New Left: A Gospel of Nihilism." (3) Turbulence on the Campus. NOTE: This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 advised that the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the constituent. We have had cordial relations with Congressman Scott in the past.

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, P.C.

<u>December 13</u> 196 8

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover Director, FBI Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration.

Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed correspondence with your answer.

Yours truly,

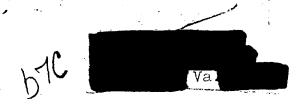
William K. Bett

William L. Scott, M. C. 8th district, Virginia

What was the ENCLOSURE

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119-64216 14 DEC-16:563



Dear Mr. Scott,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your re election to Congress from this district.

I read in the news today that the FBI is investigating the National Rifle Association at the request of our so called Justice Dept. at the taxpayers expense, of course. I wonder if you have any information concerning the basis for this investigation?

In my opinion there are hundreds of subversive organizations in this country that seriously warrant a through investigation other than the N.R.A.

Has the Justice Dept. instigated any investigations of the Black Panthers, Blackstone Rangers, Black United front, American Civil Libertys Union or any of the organizations disrupting our colleges today? If not, can Congress direct the FBI to do this?

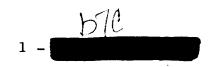
I haven't heard of any NRA members murdering policemen or staging battlefield type street demonstrations.

I only hope and pray that the Mixon administration, with the help of good Congressmen like yourself, can restore Americanism to this country.

119-64 21.

Yours truly,

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December 23, 1968

119-64-22

Honorable Joel T. Broyhill House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

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Your letter of December 19, 1963, enclosing a letter from concerning our investigation of the National Rille Association has been received.

The FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Cierk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further questions concerning this matter, you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

In accordance with your request, I am returning Mr. Barthelow's letter.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

CTG:DC
(4)

See note page 2

CONTEST

MAIL FORM PRESTORE

Honorable Joel T. Broyhill

NOTE:

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68, advised that the NRA registered on 12/10/68, with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the constituent. Our relations with Congressman Broyhill have been generally satisfactory.

T. BROYHILL

10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA, ARLINGTON, FALLS CHURCH, FAIRFAX CITY AND PART OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

Congress of the United States

COMMITTEES: Ways and Means District of Columbia

HOMER LEE KROUT

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

December 19, 1968

Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The attached communication, or pertinent extracts thereof, is sent for your consideration. Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply returning the enclosed correspondence with your answer.

Any assistance you can properly render toward accomplishing the objective stated in the enclosure will be appreciated.

With best wishes, I am

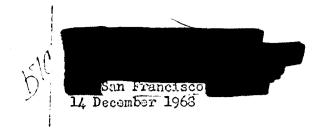
Sincerely,

Joel T. Broyhill, M. C.

119-64-22

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JTB/ck



Honorable Joel T. Broyhill U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

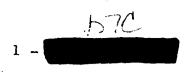
Sir

How is it that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, an agency of the federal government, is allowed to harass the National Rifle Association with its intimidating investigations? The only "crime" which the NRA stands accused of is that it has the courage to defend the basic rights of Americans.

It appears highly contradictory to require a person to give up his time, fighting for rights in Southeast Asia, when these same rights are becoming non-existent in our own country.

Sincerely





December 24, 1968

mas 119-64 23

Honorable James C. Cleveland House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

a copy of a letter from the National Rifle Association has been received.

The FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further questions concerning this matter, you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

Sincerely yours,

J. Policer Hoover

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See note page 2

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Honorable James C. Cleveland

NOTE:

This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68, advised that the NRA registered on 12/10/68, with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. Bureau indices contain no derogatory information identifiable with the constituent. Our relations with Congressman Cleveland are limited but have been generally satisfactory.

JAMES C. CLEVELAND 20 DIST., NEW HAMPSHIRE

> COMMITTEES: PUBLIC WORKS

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONGRESS

HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

Congress of the United States

Bouse of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

Washington Office: 1112 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515 Tel.: 225-5206

DISTRICT OFFICES:
316 FEDERAL BUILDING
55 PLEASANT STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301
Tel.: 224-4187

15½ MAIN STREET
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03060
TEL.: 883-4525

December 20, 1968

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Dureau of Investigation Department of Justice Washington, D.C.

Dear Hr. Hoover:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter from a constituent who is concerned about the F.3.I.'s investigation of the National Rifle Association.

Any assistance you could give me in answering my constituent's inquiry would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

James C. Cleveland, M.C.

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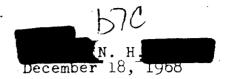
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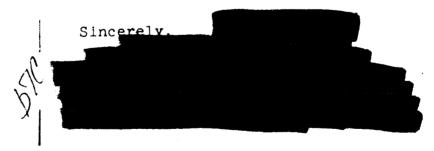


The Honorable James Cleveland 1112 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cleveland:

It has come to my attention that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has launched an investigation of the National Rifle Association. This inquiry reportedly is being made at the request of an unidentified member of Congress. As I have been a member of the National Rifle Association for the past twenty years, I would appreciate learning why such an inquiry.

The National Rifle Association has, in the past, opposed unwarranted and unreasonable laws pertaining to firearms; however, no subversive activity has ever come to my attention. Unfortunately, many people feel that investigation by a police authority, particularly the F.B.I., is indicative of wrong-doing; therefore, as both a member of the N.R.A. and citizen of the United States, I question the legitimacy of this inquiry.



WEP:mtj

4-22 (Rev. 1-22 al Bureau of Investigation Records Branch Name Searching Unit - Room 6527 Service Unit - Room 6524 Forward to File Review Attention Return to Supervisor Type of References Requested: Regular Request (Analytical Search) All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive Subversive References Only Nonsubversive References Only Main Miles References Only Type of Search Requested: Restricted to Locality of ___ Exact Name Only (On the Nose) Buildup Variations Subject Birthdate. Addres Localities Searcher ____ Date __ Initials _ Prod. FILE NUMBER

December 13, 1968

19-64-24

Honorable James Harvey House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

Your letter of December 9, 1968, enclosing a copy of excerpts from a constituent's letter concerning our investigation of the National Rifle Association has been received.

The FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and if you have any further questions concerning this matter, you may desire to contact that office relative thereto.

With respect to the other inquiries, I can tell you the FBI has conducted a considerable amount of investigation regarding the subversive movement which threatens our country today. Being strictly an investigative agency of the Department of Justice, we have furnished the results of our inquiries to the Attorney General for his opinion with respect to prosecution in these matters.

I am enclosing some material which you may wish to send to your constituent.

MAILED 20 DEC 1 3 1966 COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours. J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)

CTG: bap

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

ANROM SECTIVE UNIT

Honorable James Harvey Description of Enclosures: Testimony of Director before House Subcommittee on Appropriations 2/3/68. Statement of Director before the National Commission on (2) the Causes and Prevention of Violence, 9/18/68. Message from Director entitled "An Analysis of the (3) New Left: A Gospel of Nihilism." (4) Turbulence on The Campus. NOTE: This is the case which recently received considerable press coverage. The Department requested investigation to determine whether the National Rifle Association (NRA) should have registered as a lobbyist in connection with gun registration legislation. We interviewed three officials of NRA and furnished the Department with an investigative report. The Department on 12/10/68 advised that the NRA registered on 12/10/68 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist; and requested that any further investigation by this Bureau be discontinued. The constituent is not identified in the Congressman's correspondence. Harvey is on the Special Correspondent's List.

CAN

JAMES HARVEY

410 CANNON OFFICE BUILDING TELEPHONE: 225-2806

COMMITTEE: INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

December 9, 1968

DISTRICT OFFICES:

10-11 Jefferson-Baum Court ⁾ Saginaw, Michigan 755-6565

409 FORT PORT HURON, MICHIGAN 982-0591

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

National Riple Assessment

Enclosed you will find a copy of excerpts from a recent letter from a constituent in which an inquiry is made relative to FBI investigations. I would appreciate any comments you care to make and any information you can provide.

 $$\operatorname{\textbf{Thank}}$$ you for your assistance and cooperation. With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

JAMES HARVEY, M. C.

JH/dl

RFC-63

19-64 24

12 DEC 11 1968

CORRESPONDENCE

1- 30

Jack 12/2/6, 200

mr.l.(522)

Dec. 6, 1968

Dear Rep James Hawey,

I pest heard on the news, the F. B. I investigate the National Rifle association. I am teying to serve my eaunty by dissociation that you please do something about gitting the I. B. I. to investigate the "Black Faintheis."

I. D. S. etc. etc. etc. Communish organizatione led by perfeccional leadure, leter get on the ball and passessome legislation that well make a few wrong though through I also

ENTOT OSTIRE 119 - 6424

TRUE COPY

Dec. 6, 1968

Dear Rep James Harvey,

I just heard on the news, the F. B. I. is requested by an unidentified congressman to investigate the National Rifle Association. I am trying to serve my country by demanding that you please do some thing about getting the F.B.I. to investigate the "Black Panthers" S.D.S. etc. etc. etc. Communist organizations led by proffesional leaders, lets get on the ball and pass some legislation that will make a few wrong things "Wrong" I also

TRUE COPY

THE THE PARTY OF T

December 26, 1968

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D.C. meH. 9-1

Dear Sir:

After receiving your reply to my letter of December 14, 1968, I concluded that it had been addressed to the wrong person and I have redirected my questions to Mr. Fred Vinson, Jr.

Thank you for your consideration in answering so promptly. I believe that if all our government agencies were run as ably as the Federal Bureau of Investigation we would have fewer problems and a more stable and respected government.

Sincerely,

75. I am allaching a copy of the Letter to Mir Venson. There is no intention to cause any emineral mineral to your

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CORRESPONDENCE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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UPI-85

(GUNS) WASHINGTON -- THE FBI IS INVESTIGATING THE STATUS OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCAATION, THE POWERFUL ANTIGUN CONTROL ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS NEVER REGISTERED AS A DOMESTIC LOBBY BECAUSE IT CONTENDS IT IS NOT A LOBBYING BODY.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THE FBI WAS ASKED TO INVESTIGATE NRA AT THE REQUEST OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HAD NO COMMENT, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES THAT DOMESTIC LOBBYISTS TO REGISTER WITH THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR NRA SAID THE QUESTION OF REGISTRATION WOULD BE

REVIEWED SOON BY THE ASSOCIATION'S EXECUTIVE BOARD.

A PUBLISHED REPORT TODAY SAID THE FBI INVESTIGATION WAS SPARKED BY

COMPLAINTS FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF CONGRESS.
SEN. THOMAS D. DODD, D-CONN., LONG TIME PROPONENT OF STRONG GUN COMPLAINTS FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

SEN. THOMAS D. DODD, D-CONN., LONG TIME PROPONENT OF STRONG GUINTROLS, FORMALLY REQUESTED A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION DURING SENATE DEBATE ON THE GUN CONTROL BILL LAST SEPT. 12.

HE SAID THE NRA'S TAX EXEMPT STATUS SHOULD BE LISTED AND THE ASSOCIATION SHOULD BE FORCED TO REGISTER AS A LOBBY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SENATOR SAID TODAY, HOWEVER, HE HAD NEVER ANY REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OR ANY OF

HAD NEVER MADE ITS AGENTS.

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ion is under Justice Department investigation as a pussible violator of the Federal Regulation of Lobbying Act.

NRA officials insisting that the lobbying law didn't apply io its efforts a since gence trol legislation on Labolt of apportunen and four comps, |confirmed yesterday that they were virited a month ago by wo FBI agents.

The agents, who conducted interviews at the NRA headquarters at 1900 Rhode Island ave, nw., said they were there under Justice Department orders as the result of a complaint by an unidentified member of Congress, officials said.

Charges that the NRA has engaged in uncegistered lobbying have been made throughout Congressional hearings on gun-control legislation.

Chief critics of the NRA have included Sen. Thomas Dodd (D-Conn.) and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.). Aides to both Senators said they did not know the source of the specific complaint under investigation.

It is a misdemeanor, punishable by a year in prison and \$5000 fine, to engage "for pay" influencing legislation without registering with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and filing regular reports.

The FBI would not say whether it had turned up any evidence of such activity.

NRA officials frequently testify at gun-control hearings but they contend that they do so only to "present the views of members." They also maintain the legal right to "inform" the membership of one million of the status of proposed laws affecting their in-

The Washington Post $A-6$
The Washington Daily News
The Evening Star (Washington)
The Sunday Star (Washington)
Daily News (New York)
Sunday News (New York)
New York Post
The New York Times
The Sun (Baltimore)
The Daily World
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
People's World
Examiner (Washington)

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January 7, 1969

Honorable Sam Steiger House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Congressman:

I have received your communication of January 3rd enclosing a copy of a letter from Phoenix. Arizona.

With respect to your constituent's comment, you may wish to advise him that the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and you may wish to contact that office.

You may also wish to inform that the FBI has conducted a considerable amount of investigation regarding the subversive movement which threatens our country today. Being a strictly investigative agency of the Department of Justice, we furnish the results of our inquiries to the Attorney General for his opinion with respect to prosecution in these matters.

Sincerely yours,

1 - Phoenix - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of Congressman Steiger (R-Arizona) was elected to Congress in November, 1966, and we have enjoyed very limited, but cordial relations with him. During our investigation of this matter, we interviewed three officials of National Rifle Association (NRA) and furnished the Department with an investigative report. On December 10th, the Department advised that an official of NRA registered on that date with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobby ist, and the Department requested that any further investigation by

the Bureau be discontinued.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S. WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Respectfully referred to

Congressional Liaison FBI Justice

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ENCLOSIT

Very respectfully,

Sam Steiger, M. C. Arizona - 3 126 Cannon HOB

M.C., District.

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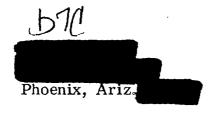
ES ESPECTEROS

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Miss Gandy.....

(Dec 26 1968)



Dear Representative Steiger:

I will start this letter by saying that I am a law abiding American citizen, who is washed, has a haircut and works every day to feed and support my family.

I was shocked Sir, to read in Saturday's Ariz. Republic that the National Rifle Ass. is being investigated by the F.B.I. It is my opinion that when we bring patriotic, loyal American organizations such as this one under investigation, our country is in serious trouble.

It would make more sense to me to investigate such organizations as A. D. A., S. D. S., and some of the other militants who make no secret of their intentions to rearrange our country by violence.

I will conclude this letter by saying that I supported and voted for you during the election, and would sincerely appreciate any efforts on your behalf to bring this unreasonable investigation to a quick end.

Respectfully Yours

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Dear Représentation et leigen: I will start this letter by saying that I am a law whiling Umerican citizen, who is washed, has a however and works wery day to ful and support my family.

I was should she, to read in Saturdays

Ariz. Republic that the national Right Rec. is being investigated by the F. B.I. It is my opinion that when we tring patriotic , doyal American organization such as this one under investigation, our country in in serious trouble.

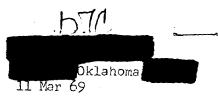
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Respectfully yours 21

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The Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D.C.

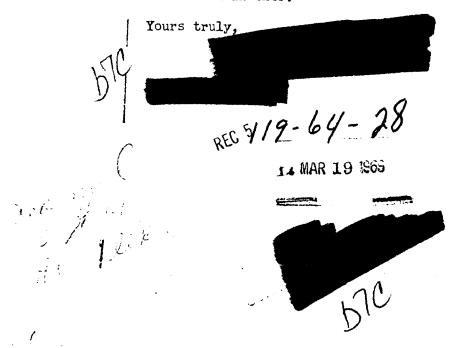
Dear Mr Hoover:

I was just looking at a clipping I took from a newspaper some time ago to the effect that the Quantico Marines complain that they are compelled to serve as markers at rifle ranges on their off-days whether they want to or not.

Is that a consequence of the National Rifle Association's lobbying activity?

I have not seen in The "ew York Times or other newspaper any report ,interim or otherwise, of your investigation into the question of whether the National Rifle Association is a lobby or notm If it is, it ought to be registered as such. Further it should lose its tax-exempt status.

There is to be a general overhaul of the tax-exempt status of Foundations and I hope the National Rifle Association will be included in this.



April 8, 1969

119-64-29

Honorable Jacob K. Javits United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Senator:

The Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Internal Revenue Service by letter of April 2nd referred to us your communication enclosing a letter from and it was received on April 4th.

With respect to your constituent's inquiries, you may wish to advise her that the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., the then Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

I am returning the enclosure as you requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

NOTE: Bufiles disclose we have enjoyed cordial correspondence with Senator Javits but contain no information identifiable with

During our investigation of National Rifle Association (NRA) we interviewed three officials and furnished the Department with an investigative report. On December 10, 1968, the Department advised that an official of NRA, registered on that date with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist, and the Department requested that any further investigation by the Bureau be discontinued. LMG:rk (4) /

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Respectfully referred to

Congressional Liaison Internal Revenue Service

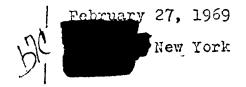
for such consideration as the communication herewith submitted may warrant, and <u>for a report</u> thereon, <u>in duplicate</u> to accompany <u>return of inclosure</u>.

By direction of

Jacob K. Javits, U. S. S.

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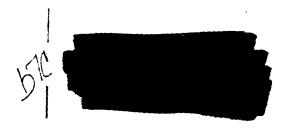


Senator Jacob Javits Senate Office Building Washington, D.C.

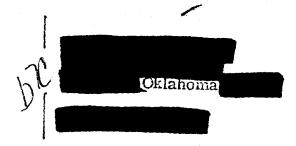
Sir:

I read, very happily, several weeks ago that the F.B.I. intended to investigate the lobbying activities of the National Rifle Association. Is the investigation continuing, or has someone managed to turn it off? Or, hopefully, has it finally been decided that the N.R.A. is now, and has been for more than thirty years, a lobby?

I, as a Republican, am pleased with your basic scepticism of the Nixon Administration. I think you reflect the thinking of many Republicans. I admire you for being willing to stand up and say what many seemed to be afraid to say.



119-64-29



In reply to your letter of March 11th, I cannot comment relative to the work of the Marines at Quantico, Virginia. I am, however, referring a copy of your letter to the Secretary, Department of Defense, Washington, D. C., for any assistance he may be able to afford you.

As I advised you on December 16, 1968, the FBI, at the request of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., the then Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, conducted a limited investigation to determine if the National Rifle Association should have registered with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist in connection with gun control legislation. The results of our investigation have been furnished to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, and you may wish to contact that office.

MAILED 22 MAR 181969 COMM-FBI

Bishop

Contad

Sincerely yours.

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles disclose we wrote correspondent on 12/16/68 in response to his letter concerning the activities of the National Rifle Association, its tax exempt status and we advised him as above. During our investigation of the National Rifle Association (NRA) we interviewed three officials and furnished the Department our investigative report. On 12/10/68, the Department advised an official of NRA registered, on that date, with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, and the Department requested that any further investigation by the Bureau be discontinued. Copy of correspondent's letter furnished to the Secretary of Defense by form referral, same date.

ALA:llk (3)

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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

P. U. Box #1525 Pittsburgh, Pa-

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James 21, 1936

Special Agent in Charge Fashington, D. C.

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celled at this office on James tim initiating every to the writer.

Par Revis Clab be jetzed the which had in its possession but it springited liftes, . Is calibre, and ton 30.06 Springfield rifles, which had been lest to the sinh by the ERA of the V. S. Osvoroment. Early year the club paid a \$10 fee to him RRA in Machington, and it was necessary for the game to be insured by the Sixon Falls Industry Common. Great Building Pithshows Re. Or this hose was

THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.

Address from yours ago the corresponds solled in these a short-we reversed that one 50.06 hitle was sissing. Tiret stated that he had lent the men to a lighter he walk the man has gone to California and they would have to wait natif he returned. Laber he stated his broken-in-less had it and when law show recall. contested the brother-inair bed faired bestime on the rifle not stated he lest it to mother man who had died, and he die not know where the gas had come.

reported the matter to this africe as a possible that or echoral ment of Coremnant property. He exhibited a letter from the Close Falls Inducated Company dated Threary 7, 1928. Po Rose which stated that the Government clain of \$120. As so so paid terimory 30, 1988.

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stated that the price of the rifls is approximately \$54.00, and that the rest of the \$120.38 is for other things that were missing on which there is no kick by the club.

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instituted to accertain the facts at the Mil at Fashington, E. C., after which the case would be promoted to the United States Attorney for his opinion as to whether the taking of the gun by recommend to a theft of Government property, after which his advice would be fellowed.

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YOUR TRUNK YOURS.

R. J. UPFERIER Special Agent in Charge

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52-120/

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issued by his office, is received from the Ordnance Department, U.S. Army, and that it remains the property of the U.S. Toverment unless it is sold, and his records failed to show that instant rifle was sold or returned. His records further indicated that one is of the Pennsylvania Rifle

CIDE

At the office of the Mational Rifle Association. In Secretary, was interviewed and stated that the Fennsylvania Rifle Club is an affiliated club of the national Rifle Association, for which affiliation a \$10.00 a mual charter fee is paid. Mr. Lister stated that clubs so affiliated with the N.R.A. are afforded the opportunity of drawing pertain Government property from the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, but that this property does not in any way belong to the Mational Rifle Association, and insofar as he knows, remains Government property unless sold by the Director of Civilian Marksmanship.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

-2-

BEST COPY AVAILABLE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

t	t	TE WHEN MACE	PERIOD FOR	REPORT MADE 94	
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the min to a sen for the surpose of deer minting, stated that a sen for the surpose of deer minting, stated that a ser changed his story and stated there is bruther-in-law that has give that when contacted trother-in-law shore name he did not know, the crother-in-law numbered that he had the rifle, but that he had loaned it to another sen who had since aled, and that did not know the present whereabouts of the gan.

It should be noted that this matter had not been called to the attention of suthorities for more than two years, and that it was not until the Glenn Falls Indemnity Company, who experently paid the loss on this rifle to the United States Covernment, wrote to the Rifle Glub at for reimbursement that he submitted the facts of this case to this Arean on the possibility of a thaft or embessionent of Government property.

210

At the time this report was made to the Pittaburgh Office is letter was directed to the Washington Field Division embodying the facts as set out above with request that the Washington Field Division make an appropriate check at the Washington Biffs Association to suspense the Citaburgh series of the lam of these guis to the Eifle Club, and to determine if title to the maid guns formalised in the name of the United States Jovernment.

The Washington Field Division covered the lead suggested, by: the letter directed to it as is reflected in the report of reference.

In his Inspection Report dated March 7, 1936, Agent discussed the facts in this case with Assistant United States Attorney George Machank, who declined presecution for the reason that the facts did not indicate a criminal intent, inascach as there was no evidence of any theft; and in view of the fact that the United States Covernment was indemnified by the Glenn Falls Indemnity Company on a bond for that purpose there was no loss to the Government and accordingly, this case is being closed.

CLOSED

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believed it possible that some inquiry might be made at a later fate conterming the drill.

AT PROVO. UDAE.

Deputy Exeriff Christenson was interviewed at the Sheriff's Office, Proto, Utah on January 24, 1938 and informed Agent that he, together with Deputy Exeriff welt Current, had conducted an exhaustive investigation pertaining to the theft of the instant drill and had developed no suspects. On January 26 Deputy -heriff wait Durrent was interviewed at Proto, Utah and stated that in the spring they will again conduct an investigation pertaining to the theft of the instant drill as they believed at that time whoever had stolen it would use it for prospecting. Deputy Sheriff infrant promised Agent that in the spring he will again conduct an investigation and he stated that through his contacts he will know whether or not that drill was ever used for prospecting in that vicin-

It may be noted that letters have been addressed to all Police Departments and Sheriffs' Offices in Utah where second-hand shops are located to notify their Paunshop Datails of the theft of the instant hanner drill. It is believed that in the event the Uninoun Subjects attempt to payn or sell the instant drill, this information will be immediately furnished to the Salt Lake City Field Division.

In view of the fact that there are no leads outstanding, this case is being closed subject to being reopened upon receipt of subsequent information which may lead to the identity and apprehension of the Unknown Subjects in the above-cattled case.

CLOSED

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52-234

Impector

This investigation is delinquest in the Pittsburgh district. It is noted from a review of the initial reports that the end was leased by the second of the and has subsequently begins lest. Store my further investigation is conducted in this matter, it is suggested that the facts in this case be presented to the United States Attorney for his epinion as to presentates should the facts aliq. I be proved type.

A SECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T

Sid Untrelact:

This will be done.

Inspection Report Pittaburgh Office Inspector March 7, 1988

570

20-1377

Approved: _

	,	FBI		1 1
	TRANSMIT VIA:	PRECEDENCE:	CLASSIFICATION:	,
	☐ Teletype	Immediate	TOP SECRET	γ !
	☐ Facsimile	Priority	SECRET	
	X AIRTEL	Routine	CONFIDENTIAL	
			UNCLAS E F T O	
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	· ¿		4/45/04	
·			Date 4/11/81	
	Subject: UNSUB; Three	fle Association	TERRORISM SECTION PERSONAL AND PRO CRIMES SECTION	TION Y AND ON
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	Summary of Comp	laint:		1
2	D. C., via postcar forwarded by NRA to The postcard was seen as FBI, by the Virgin	d, postmarked Vico Chief of Police Subsequently for Vic	t was sent to NRA, Washin irginia Beach, Virginia, ce, Virginia Beach, Virgiwarded to the Norfolk Off Department, 4/17/81.	and nia.
1	INDICES: 🔀 Neg		•	/
The state of the s	1- WFO (Enc. 1) 2- Norfolk (1- 66-820) BAW:csb		Copy to: X USA LHM) S Secret Se ATF ed n instituted astituted 17 ACR 29 1	NF

Transmitted _

(Number)

(Time)

NF 174C-529

Request of the FBI Laboratory

Per MIOG, Part 1, 174-3.2.5, page 800, postcard furnished to Laboratory for document and latent fingerprint examination.



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to File No. NF 174C-529

Norfolk, Virginia

April 17, 1981

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; THREAT TO BOMB NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION (NRA) WASHINGTON, D. C. APRIL 2, 1981

Harlon B. Carter, Executive Vice President, National Rifle Association (NRA), Washington, D. C., forwarded a postcard addressed to that association to the Chief of Police, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

The postcard was addressed to the National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036, and was postmarked in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on April 2, 1981. The front of the postcard bore the notation:

"'N. R. A.'
MAN OF THE YEAR
HINCKLEY"

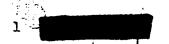
The back of the postcard contained the following printed message:

"CURSE OF USA LOBBIES
I WOULD GIVE \$100
NOW TO HELP EOMB
YOUR OFFICES PLUTOS - WEALTH OF LOBBIES"

This postcard was in turn forwarded to the Norfolk Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation where it was received on April 17, 1981. The postcard has been fowarded to the FBI Laboratory for examination. No additional investigation is being initiated at Norfolk.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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670



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To:

SAC, Norfolk (174C-529)

May 21, 1981

From: Director, FBI

FBI FILE NO.

174-8911

LAB. NO.

10421025 D VE

National Rifle Association (NRA)

Washington D. C.

4/2/81

Examination requested by:

Norfolk

Reference:

Airtel dated April 17, 1981

Examination requested:

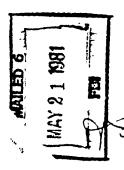
Document - Fingerprint

Remarks:

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

Transport of the same of the s

7 MAY 21 131



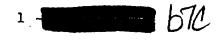
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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE



REPORT of the





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To:

SAC, Norfolk (1740-529)

May 21, 1981

FBI FILE NO.

174-8911

LAB. NO.

10421025 D VD

Re:UNSUB; Threat to Bomb National Rifle Association (MRA) Washington, D. C. 4/2/81

Specimens received

April 20, 1931

Ql Postcard postmarked "VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. PM 2 APR 1981" addressed to "NATIONAL RIFLE ASSN..."

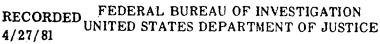
Result of examination:

Specimen Q1 was searched through the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Copies have been added to this file for future reference.

No watermarks, indented writing or other identifying characteristics were noted on specimen 31 which would indicate the immediate source of this item.

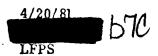
Specimen Q1, which has been photographed, will be returned separately with the results of the latent fingerprint examination.

JBM:pmg (4) *



pmg*

Laboratory Work Sheet



To:

SAC, Norfolk (174C-529)

FBI FILE NO.

174-8911-

Re:

UNSUB; Threat to Bomb

National Rifle Association (NRA)

Washington, D. C.

4/2/81

LAB. NO.

10421025 D VE

YOUR NO.

Examination by:

Examination requested by:

Norfolk

Reference:

Airtel dated April 17, 1981

Specimens received:

Examination requested:

Document - Fingerprint

April 20, 1981

Postcard postmarked "VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. PM 2 APR Ql 1981" addressed to "NATIONAL RIFLE ASSN...."

- The value of an and the second

Results of examination:

Specimen Ql was searched through the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Copies have been added to this file for future reference.

No watermarks, indented writing or other identifying characteristics were noted on specimen Ql which would indicate the imediate sourace of this item.

Specimen Q1, which has been photographed, will be returned separately with the results of the latent fingerprint examination.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

	Page(s) withheld entirely at this location explain this deletion.	in the file. One or more of	of the following statements, where indicated,
	Deletions were made pursuant to the exemple release to you.	nptions indicated below wi	th no segregable material available for
	Section 552		Section 552a
	□ (b)(1)	□ (b)(7)(A)	□ (d)(5)
	□ (b)(2) ·	□ (b)(7)(B)	□ (j)(2)
	□ (b)(3)	□ (b)(7)(C)	□ (k)(1)
٠	•	□ (b)(7)(D)	\square (k)(2)
		□ (b)(7)(E)	□ (k)(3)
		□ (b)(7)(F)	\square (k)(4)
	□ (b)(4)	□ (b)(8)	\square (k)(5)
	(b)(5)	· □ (b)(9)	□ (k)(6)
	□ (b)(6)		□ (k)(7)
	Information pertained only to a third party request is listed in the title only.	with no reference to the s	subject of your request or the subject of your
	Documents originated with another Govern for review and direct response to you.	ument agency(ies). These of	documents were referred to that agency(ies)
	Pages contain information furnished by as to the releasability of this information fol	nother Government agency llowing our consultation wi	r(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as ith the other agency(ies).
	Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final released disposition at a later date.	ase determination has not	been made. You will be advised as to the
X	Pages were not considered for release as		
	Page(s) withheld for the following reason(Airte	1 dated 4-17-81
e	The following number is to be used for reference $174 - 40 - 8911 - 2 + 40$	rence regarding these page 15.516	es:
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XXXXX			X for this page X XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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ENLESHING(E) 1	to_Bureau
(Attn: FBI La	boratory)
	irtel) dated 4/17/81
Norfolk File Ro. 17	,
Fil	b Ko.
Re: UNSUB; Thre	at to Bomb
_Nation: Ri	fle Association
Washington,	D. C.
4/2/81	<u> </u>

Anonymous postcard containing bomb threat

DO NOT STAMP OF HANDLE AS ENCLOSURE

ESTIGATION D.C.

10421025012

NRA

MAN OF THE YEAR

HINCRIES

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSN.
1600
RHODE ISLAND AUE
NW
WASHINGTON
D.C.20036

1042/025 DVERI

CURSE OF USA (OBBIES I WOULD GIVE \$100 OHELP BUMB YOUR OFFICES PLUTUS WEALTH OF Lobbies

104 21025 ->

VE





RECORDED UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 4/27/81

pmg*

Laboratory Work Sheet

LFPS D7

Recorded:

5-19-81 7:15 a.m., ljw

Received: 5-18-81

To:

SAC, Norfolk (174C-529)

FBI FILE NO.

174-8911 —

Re:

UNSUB; Threat to Bomb National Rifle Association (NRA)

Washington, D. C.

4/2/81

LAB. NO.

YOUR NO. 10421025 D VE

LC#B-99610

Examination by:

Noted By:

570

Examination requested by:

Reference:

Norfolk

Examination requested:

Ql

Airtel dated April 17, 1981

Specimens received:

Document - Fingerprint

April 20, 1981

Postcard postmarked "VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. PM 2 APR 1981" addressed to "NATIONAL RIFLE ASSN...."

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Examination completed_

1:30 P.W

5/2781

Dictated 5 1276 1

Date

F81/DQ.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.						
Secti	on 552		Section 552a			
□ (b)(1)	۵	(b)(7)(A)	□ (d)(5)			
□ (b)(2) -		(b)(7)(B)	□ (j)(2)			
(b)(3)	. 🗆	(b)(7)(C)	\square (k)(1)			
		(b)(7)(D)	□ (k)(2)			
		(b)(7)(E)	□ (k)(3)			
		(b)(7)(F)	\square (k)(4)			
[] (b)(4)		(b)(8)	□ (k)(5)			
(b)(5)		(b)(9)	□ (k)(6)			
(b)(6)			\square (k)(7)			
I Information pertained o	nly to a third party with r	no reference to the st	abject of your request or the subject of yo			
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	FBI	
TRANSMIT VIA:	PRECEDENCE:	CLASSIFICATION:
☐ Teletype	☐ Immediate	TOP SECRET
☐ Facsimile	☐ Priority	□ SECRET
☆ <u>airtel</u>	Routine	CONFIDENTIAL
		☐ UNCLAS E F T O
		☐ UNCLAS
		Date6/5/81
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI	
FROM:	SAC, WFO (174C-885) (RU	oc)
	REAT TO BOMB RIFLE ASSOCIATION (NRA) N, D.C.	
	ReNorfolk airtel dated	4/17/81.
	On 5/7/81, a WFO repres	sentative contacted
National	Rifle Association, washi	ington, D.C.
forwarded Virginia,	the subject post card a it to the Chief of Poli for information only. that the NRA receives num	further
	WFO considers this mate	ter RUC.
	•	171-3911-4
2 Burea 2 - Norfo 1 - WFO	nu olk (174C-529)	174
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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1980-305-750/5402



LEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIG. JION

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

YOUR FILE NO. 1740-529 FBI FILE NO. 174-8911 LATENT CASE NO.B-99610

June 17, 1981

TO:SAC. Horfolk

UNSUB.;
THELAT TO FAUD

RECATIONAL RIPLE ASSOCIATION (WRA)
WASHLEGTON, D.C.
4-2-81

REFERENCE: Airtel 4-17-81 EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: Norfolk SPECIMENS: (ne postcard, 1/21

The result of the laboratory examination is being furnished separately.

No latent prints of value were developed on the enchosed specimen.

Fnc.

MAIL ROOM [7]

